Country Contentments:

OR, THE

HUSBANDMANS RECREATIONS.

CONTAYNING THE WHOLESOME Experiences in which any man ought to Recreate himſelf, after the toyle of more ſerious buſineſs.

As namely, Hunting, Hawking, Courſing with Greyhounds, and the lawes of the Leaſe, Shooting in Longbow or Crosbow, Bowling, Tennis, Bloone. The whole Art of Angling, and the uſe of the Fighting Cock.

By G.M.

The ſeventh Edition.
Newly Corrected, Enlarged, and adorned with many excellent Additions, as may appear by this mark.

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To the thrice Noble and vertuous Maintainer

and furtherer of all lawfull and worthy pleasures,

Sir THEODORE NEWTON,

Knight.

SIr, howsoever banished by the necessity of mine affairs from your presence, (in which I once built the best & happiest estate of my life, beginning to love it because I found you did imploy it,) yet can I never be separated from your remembrance, because it is all the joy which is likely to live & dye with me; witness my soul, that shewes me no worldly lesson so much, as the beneficiall favours I have reapt from your vertue; which to acknowledge with a more earnest and serious fervency, I have sent this poor Book to kiss your hand, and speak to you in plain and short rules those speeches which you have been willing to hear from my mouth; not doubting but they will give you satisfaction, and make mee live both with you, and the inheritours of your vertues, to the last age They are true and easie, drawne from these last times, not h[illegible] to bestow with a flattering insinuation, but faithful[illegible] borrowed Art, and from those experiments which I once [illegible] drawn from slept in the grave with me: but having [illegible] thought should have (which I protest my soul truly loves) lived so long from your eyes I studied to think what gratefull Embassadour I might send to speak I love you; and finding none which I thought you would better hear than this, I furnisht him with the best instructions I could, and sent him only attired in his own vertue, to tell you, what I doe, and what I will doe, is, ever to live and dye at your Service.

Gervase Markham.

To the beſt diſpoſed Readers.

MAny and ſundry may bee the conſtructions and cenſures of this Book (Courteous and well diſpoſed Reader) becauſe I have in former time written ſo largely of ſome part of the ſubject contained herein; but I would have no man miſtaken in his owne prejudicate opinion, but truly underſtand, that this is neither epitomy, relation, extraction, nor repetition either of mine own, or any other Author whatſoever; but a plaine form of doing things by a neerer and more eaſie and ſafer way then ever hath hitherto been diſcovered, drawn from the lateſt experiments in true Art, and finding a nearer way to our ends by many degrees: for what before could not be done in divers years, here you ſhall ſee how to effect in few months, and what we beſtowed months upon to ſeek, now we may find in few weeks. The reaſons which induc'd me to this labour were theſe, Firſt to give ſatisfaction to the friends and favourers of my former works, that when they hear men diſcourſe of theſe paſſages to our delights, they may yet know, that the firſt was neither ill nor vaine, but what now is derived from it; and that albeit we may be leſs curious, yet the curioſity is not altogether unprofitable, but both joyned together may make an abſolute underſtanding. Then to give eaſe and light burthen to the heavy and duller memory, whom the tediouſneſſe of a great work may diſcourage: and laſtly, becauſe my former labour is utterly out of print, whereby the Kingdome is deprived the benefit I intended, I thought good to have ſomething living of leſs price, and as great (perhaps greater) profit, which ſhould ſatisfie all vertuous minds in any thing required, within the compaſs of thoſe former ſhewed Recreations: not doubting but howſoever men may firſt give a light ſurvay to theſe papers, yet if they once take paines to read them, they will after affirm them worthy of choice boſomes. And with this ſetled reſolution I leave them to thy view, and thee to thine own reſt.

Ever one, Gervaſe Markham.

Country

COUNTRY CONTENTMENTS: OR, The Husband-Mans Recreation: containing the wholesome Exercises, in which any man ought to Recreate himself, after the toyle of more serious business.

The first Booke.

CHAP. 1.

Of Hunting, and of all the particular knowledges belonging thereunto.

HAving already in my former Worke of the *English-Husbandman*, set forth in sufficient largeness, the toile and industrious labours of the carefull *Husbandman*, and how both his mind and body ought in every season to be imployed, for the effecting and bringing forth of those wholesome profits, which God hath appointed for the maintenance of him, and his Family; And in the

the Bok laſt going before, called, *Cheap and Good*, ſhewed the cure and maintenance of his Cattle & creatures bred by him, & his labors, through Gods great Bleſſings; I think it not amiſs here to ſpeak of thoſe lawfull & praiſe-worthy exerciſes or recreations, in which (with Gods fear, & care of not offending his neighbour) he may ſoberly ſpend thoſe houres which he ſhall beſtow in the cheertull reviving and ſtirring up of his ſpirits, being formerly wearied or foredone with the heavy toyle of more unpleaſant (though more profitable) ſtudyes: both becauſe it is intended that a man ſo good and vertuous as the true *Husband-man* is, ſhould not be deprived of any comfort or felicity, which the earth, or the creatures of the earth can afford to him, being indeed the right Lord & Maſter (next under God) of them both; as alſo for the neceſſity thereof, being the ſtrength and inabler of the mind, to undergoe the weightieſt affairs that can any way poiſe, or bear down imagination.

The neceſſity and uſe of recreation.

Hence it comes that the heathen Sages, or wiſe men of the firſt world, founded, with their Lawes, their feaſts; with their *Labours*, their *Olympicks*, & with their warfare, their *Triumphs*; nay, at this day we ſe the ſevereſt pedants wil give their ſcholl-rs their play-day, & themoſt covetous maſters will bind their hirelings but to certain hours; every toyl exacting (as out of duty) ſome time for recreation: neither was there any *Stoick* found ſo cruell, either to himſelf or nature, but at ſometime or other he would unbend his mind, and give it liberty to ſtray into ſome more pleaſant walks, then the myry wayes of his owne wilfull reſolutions. As I have obſerved in the courſe of many men of exceeding ſtrickt liver, to whom all-be ſeverity of profeſſion, infirmity of body, and age, or ſuch like, have taken away all actuall recreation, yet have their minds begot unto themſelves ſome habits or cuſtomes of delight, which have in as large meaſure given them contentment, whether they were their owne, or borrowed, as if they had been the ſole Actors of the ſame.

But why wade I thus far in this untroubled ſtreame? let it ſuffice then, that as Recreation is moſt neceſſary, ſo to none it is more due then to the *Husband man*: and herein you may not expect, that I will go about to elect and preſcribe what recreation he ſhall uſe, binding all men to one pleaſure; God forbid: my purpoſe

purpoſe is meerly contrary: for I know in mens recreations, that nature taketh to her ſelf an eſpeciall prerogative, and what to one is moſt pleaſant, to another is moſt offenſive; ſome ſeeking to ſatisfie the minde, ſome the body, and ſome both, in a joint motion.

I will therefore, as far as my skil and knowledge will extend, figure forth to the life every ſeverall recreation, leaving no limbe or member imperfect, and then leave unto the choiſe of the *Husbandman*, that which ſhall beſt agree with his ſpirit, not doubting but as they are in themſelves lawfull and modeſt, ſo he will uſe them according to the worthineſs of his owne, and their vertues. Now for as much as theſe ſports are many and divers, I think it not amiſs to begin and give that recreation precedency of place, which in mine opinion (how ever it may be eſteemed partiall) doth many degrees goe before, and precede all other, as being moſt royall for the ſtatelines thereof, moſt artificiall for the wiſedome and cunning thereof, and moſt manly and warlike for the uſe and indurance thereof. And this I hold to be the hunting of wild Beaſts in generall: of which as Chaſes are many, ſo will I ſpeak of them particularly in their proper places. The praiſe of Hunting.

But before I proceed any further, I will tell you what *Hunting* is, and from the true definition thereof, make your way more eaſie and plain into the hidden Art of the ſame. Hunting is then a curious ſcarch or conqueſt of one Beaſt over another, purſued by a naturall inſtinct of enmity, and accompliſhed by the diverſities and diſtinction of ſmells onely, wherein *Nature* equally dividing her cunning, giveth both to the offender, and offended, ſtrange knowledge both of offence and ſafety. In this recreation is to be ſeen the wonderful power of God in his creatures, and how far rage and policy can prevail againſt innocency and wiſedome: But to proceed to my main purpoſe, you ſhall underſtand that as the Chaſes are many which we dayly hunt, as that of the *Stagge*, the *Buck*, the *Roe*, the *Hare*, the *Fox*, the *Badger*, the *Otter* the *Boare*, the *Goat*, and ſuch like; ſo the purſuers or conquerers of theſe chaſes (ſpeaking of *Hunting* onely) are but one kind of creatures, namely, *Hounds*. Now of theſe hounds there are divers kinds, as the Slow hound, which is a large What Hunting is. The diverſity of Chaſes. The diverſity of hounds.

large great dog, tall, and heavy, and are bred for the moſt part in the Weſt countries of this Kingdome, as alſo in *Cheſ-ſhire* and *Lancaſhire*, and moſt woodland, and Mountainous Countryes; then the middle ſiz'd dog, which is more fit for the Chaſe, being of a more nimble compoſure, and are bred in *Worceſter-ſhire*, *Bedford-ſhire*, and many other well mixt ſoyles, where the Champaign and covert are of equall largeneſſe; then the light, nimble, ſwift, ſlender dog, which is bred in the North parts of this kingdome, as *Yorkſhire*, *Cumberland*, *Northumberland*, and many other plain champaign countries: and laſtly the little *Beagle*, which may be carried in a mans glove, and are bred in many countryes for delight only, being of curious ſents, and paſſing cunning in their hunting; for the moſt part tiring, (but ſeldome killing) the prey, except at ſome ſtrange advantage.

Theſe hounds are of divers colours, and according to their colours, ſo we elect them for the Chaſe: as thus for example. The white hound, or the white with black ſpots, or the white with ſome few liver ſpots, are the moſt principall beſt to compoſe your Kennell of, and will indeed hunt any Chaſe exceeding well, eſpecially the Hare, Stagg, Buck, Roe, or Otter; for they will well endure both woods, and waters: yet if you demand which is the beſt, and moſt beautifull of all colours for the generall Kennell, then I anſwer the white with the black eares, and a black ſpot at the ſetting on of the tail, and are ever found both of good ſent, and good condition. The black hound, the black tann'd, or he that is all liver-hewd, or the milk white, which is the true Talbots, are beſt for the ſtring, or lyne, for they doe delight moſt in blood, and have a naturall inclination to hunt dry-foot; and of theſe the largeſt is ever beſt, and moſt comely. The griſſeld, which are ever moſt commonly ſhag-haird or any other colour, whether it be mixt, or unmixt, ſo it be ſhag-haird, are the beſt verminers, and therefore are choſen to hunt the Fox, Badger, or any other hot ſent: they are exceeding good and cunning finders: and therefore have *Huntſmen* not thought amiſs to have one, or a couple in every kennell.

The ſhape and proportion of Hounds.

For the ſhape of your Hound, it muſt be according to the climate where he is bred, and according to the naturall compoſition

position of his body, as thus: If you would choose a large, heavy, slow true Talbot-like hound, you must choose him which hath a round, big, thick head, with a short nose uprising, and large open nostrils, which shews that he is of a good and quick sent, his eares exceeding large, thin, and down hanging much lower then his chaps, and the flews of his upper lips almost two inches lower than his neither chaps, which shews a merry deep mouth, and a loud ringer, his back strong and streight, yet rather rising, then inwardly yeelding, which shewes much toughnes and indurance; his fillets would bee thick, and great, which approves a quick gathering up of his legs without paine, his huckle bones round, and hidden, which shemes he will not tyre, his thighs round, and his hams streight, which shewes swiftnes; his taile long, and rush grown, that is big at the setting on, and small downward, which shewes a perfect strong chine, and a good wind: the haire under his belly hard, and stiffe, which shews willingnes and ability to endure labour in all weathers, and in all places; his legs large, and leane, which shews nimblenes in leaping, or climing, his foot round, high knuckled and well clawd, with a dry hard soal, which shewes he will never surbait; and the generall composure of his body so just, and even, that no levell may distinguish whether his hinder or fore part be the higher, all which shew him of much ability, and that in his labour he will seldome find any annoyance. But if you will chuse a swift light hound, then must his head be more slender and his nose more long, his ears and flewes more shallow, his back broad, his belly gaunt, his taile small, his joints long, his foot round, and his generall composure much more slender, and Gray-hound-like: and thus in the generality for the most part: and all your *York-shire* hounds, whose vertues I can praise no further then for sent and swiftnes; for to speak of their mouths they have only a little sharpe sweetnes like a Gigge, but no depth or ground like more solemne musick.

The composition of kennels.

Now to speak of the composition of Kennels, though there is a most certaine known better-hood, yet it is to men like beauty, each allowing best of that which agrees with his own affection: therefore when you intend to set up a kennell of hounds, examine your fancy what bee the best pleasures you take in

Hounds, whether it be cunning in hunting, ſweetneſſe, loudneſſe or deepneſs of cry, whether it be for the training of your horſe, or elſe but meerly for the exerciſe of your own body, being otherwiſe ſubject to groſſneſſe and infirmity: if it bee for cunning Hunting, you ſhall breed your dogs from the ſloweſt and largeſt of the Northern hounds, and the ſwifteſt and ſlendreſt of the Weſt country Hounds, being both male, and female, approved to be ſtaunch, fair, and even running, of perfect fine ſent, and not given to lye off, or look for advantages. Theſe hound will neither be ſo exceeding ſlow, that you will waſt many dayes without ſome fruit of your labour, or ſo unnimble, that you ſhall need men to help them over every hedge, as I have many times ſeen to my much wonder, but having both ſtrength and nimbleneſſe, will hold you in continuall delight and exerciſe: for theſe middle ſized dogs are neither ſo ſwift that they will far out-run the ſent, and ſo fetch many tedious rings to recover it, nor ſo ſlow, that for want of ſpeed they will loſe the ſent, and let it grow cold by their owne laſineſs, but being ever and anon upon it, bring the Chaſe to ſuch a narrow exigent, that the poor Beaſt ſhall be forc'd to try all the skill nature or ſtrength, hath lent it to preſerve life: and the hounds on the other ſide all their pains, and the huntſmans cunning, to undoe intricate doubles, skips, ſquats, and windings with which they ſhall be perplexed; and in this mediocrity of hunting, ſhall your eye (if the covert be not too extreame thick) take a perfect view of all the art and cunning in every paſſage; ſo that I conclude the middle ſized hound, of good ſtrength, ſound mouth, and reaſonable ſpeed, which will make a horſe gallop faſt, and not run, is the beſt for the true Art and uſe of hunting.

The middle fix'd dog for cunning.

If you would have your kennell for ſweetneſſe of cry, then you muſt compound it of ſome large dogges, that have deepe ſolemn mouthes, and are ſwift in ſpending, which muſt as it were bear the baſe in the conſort; then a double number of roaring, and loud ringing mouthes, which muſt bear the counter tenor, then ſome hollow plain ſweet mouths, which muſt bear the mean or middle part: and ſo with theſe three parts of muſick you ſhall make your cry perfect: and herein you ſhall obſerve that theſe hounds thus mixt, doe runne juſt and even together, and

For ſweetneſs of cry.

and not hang off looſe one from another which is the vileſt ſight that may be; and you ſhall underſtand, that this compoſition is beſt to bee made of the ſwifteſt and largeſt deep mouthed dog, the ſloweſt middle ſiz'd dog, and the ſhorteſt legd ſlender dog, amonſt theſe you may caſt in a couple or two ſmall ſinging Beagles, which as ſmall trebles may warble amongſt them: the cry will bee a great deal the more ſweeter.

If you would have your Kennell for lowdneſs of mouth, you ſhall not then chooſe the hollow deep mouth, but the loud clanging mouth, which ſpendeth freely, and ſharpely, and as it were redoubleth in the utterance: and if you mix with them the mouth that roareth, and the mouth that whineth, the cry will be both the louder, and ſmarter; and theſe hounds are for the moſt part of the middle ſize, neither extreme tall, nor extreame deep flewed, ſuch as for the moſt part your *Shrop-ſhire*, pure *Worceſter-ſhire* dogs are, and the more equally you compound theſe mouthes, having as many Roarers, as Spenders, and as many whiners, as of either of the other, the lowder, and pleaſanter your cry will be, eſpecially if it be in ſounding tall woods, or under the eccho of Rocks. For lowdneſs of cry.

If you would have your Kennel for depth of mouth, then you ſhall compound it of the largeſt dogges, which have the greateſt mouths, and deepeſt flews, ſuch as your *Weſt Countrie*, *Ches-ſhire*, and *Lancaſhire* dogs are, and to five or ſix baſe couple of mouths, ſhall not adde above two couple of Counter tenors, as many Meanes, and not above one couple of Roarers, which being heard but now and then, as at the opening or hitting of a ſent, will give much ſwetneſs to the ſolemneſs, and graveneſs of the cry, and the muſick thereof will be much more delightfull to the eares of every beholder. For deepneſs of cry.

If you would have your Kennell for the trayning of your horſe onely, labouring thereby to bring him to the full perfection of ſpeed, truth, and toughneſs, then you ſhall compound your Kennell of the lighteſt, nimbleſt and ſwifteſt dogs, ſuch as for the moſt part all your Northern hounds are, which running ſwiftly away with the Chaſe will draw your horſe up to that extraordinary ſpeed, that he will forget all eaſe or loitering, and acquaint himſelf daily with the violence of ſuch exerciſe, being ſo For training of horſes.

familiar therewith, that in the end it will be leſs troubleſome to him then a ſlow gallop: and hence it was and is, that the North-parts are ſo famous for the truth and ſwiftneſs of their horſes above all other Countries in this Kingdome: for it is moſt certain that their horſes are not better bred there, then in other places, but their exerciſe is much ſtronger, and violent, through the naturall ſwiftneſs of their hounds, inſomuch that unleſs a horſe either out of nature, or education, be brought to a more then ordinary ſpeed, it is impoſſible that his maſter ſhould either ſee ſport, or keep company with his companions.

A good caveat for gentlemen.

Therefore I would have all young Gentlemen, which are addicted to the delight of hunting, or running horſes, by all means to traine them up after the ſwifteſt hounds: for it is the greateſt deceit and couſenage a man can beſtow upon himſelf to do the contrary, as I have ſeen many times in mine owne experience when a Gentleman who hath ſuppoſed his hounds to be ſwift, which indeed were but of a middle ſpeed, and hath ſeen his Horſe follow them all day luſtily and ſtrongly, in every Chaſe able to command the formoſt hound at his pleaſure, he hath immediately in his own judgment concluded his horſe ſwift and matchable with the beſt, and from that opinion ingaged him againſt a known ſwift horſe for great ſummes of mony: then when the day of tryall, hath been come, the horſe which had been trained after ſlow dogs, comming to follow thoſe that were indeed ſwift, hath been drawn ſo far beyond the uſuall manner of former exerciſe, that he hath given over the Chaſe before the day hath been half ſpent.

This caveat I give for all mens inſtructions, becauſe I have ſeen the loſs which hath growne thereby. And now to returne to my purpoſe; your Kennell thus compoſed of the ſwifteſt hounds, you ſhall as nigh as you can ſort their mouthes into three equall parts of muſick, that is to ſay, Baſe, Countertenor, and Meane; the Baſe are thoſe mouths which are moſt deep and ſolemn, and are ſpent out plain and freely, without redoubling: the Countertenour are thoſe which are moſt loud and ringing, whoſe ſharp ſounds paſs ſo ſwift, that they ſeeme to doole and make diviſion; and the Mean are thoſe which are ſoft ſweet mouthes, that though plaine, and a little hollow, yet are ſpent ſmooth

ſmooth and freely; yet ſo diſtinctly, that a man may count the notes as they open. Of theſe three ſorts of mouthes if your Kennel be (as near as you can) equally compounded, you ſhall find it moſt perfect & delectable: for though they have not the thunder and loudneſſe of the great dogs, which may be compared to the high wind inſtruments, yet they will have the tunable ſweetneſs of the beſt compounded conſorts; and ſure a man may find as much Art and delight in a Lute, as in an Organ. But here me thinks a too tender lover of a horſe ſtands at my elbow, and pulls me by the ear with this Objection, that to train Horſes after Doggs of this exceeding ſwiftneſs, will be a labour of that violence, which a young Horſe will hardly endure: For firſt it wil draw him ſo ſuddainly from his wind, that it wil breed ſtopping in his body, and choaking up the paſſage of his breath, hazard the breaking of his Lungs, or the rimme of his belly, as hath been many times ſeen in Horſes of great metall: Next, the horſe being young and unacquainted with exerciſe, it will breed in him a wearineſs and loathing of his labour, and nothing is well done that is not done with delight: Laſtly, the horſe being foule of body, and unpurged, it may melt his greaſe too ſoone, ſtrayne his ſinews and tender griſtles too much, and breed many diſeaſes, foul, and incurable, of which onely too violent Labour is the ground-work. Objections againſt ſwift hounds.

To this objection I thus anſwer, that albeit the labour be for the time moſt violent, yet it is not of ſo long continuance as that which is more ſlow, and to run twelve ſcore ſwiftly is not ſo painfull, as to walk twenty miles: for you muſt underſtand that theſe ſwift hounds out of their metal and ſwiftneſs do ſoon overſhut and runne beyond the ſent, and then retiring back upon it againe, give the horſe time to eaſe himſelf, and catch new breath; whereas the ſlower doggs carrying the ſent ever before them, keep your horſe to a continuall Labour, which is more painfull, and makes him a tough enduring Lackey, but not a moſt ſwift running Gentleman; beſides, the many faults, & caſtings about of the ſwift doggs, adde ſuch a comfort unto the horſe, who perceiveth the ſtrength of his Labour to have no eaſe till he come up to thoſe Faults, that he will out of the willingneſs of his owne nature, double his courage to purſue them moſt The anſwer.

ſwiftly, ſeeing his eaſe is never the greater, by how much he keepeth ever nearer to the hounds; for the danger of burſting, melting his greaſe, and other infirmities, the diſcretion of the Rider, & skill of the Keeper muſt prevent, of whoſe Offices I have written largely in former Chapters in the Booke called *Cheap* and *Good*: for be aſſured, thoſe dangers may happen as well after the ſloweſt doggs as the ſwifteſt.

Correction of of ſwift hounds haſt.

But to my purpoſe, ſince hounds are the ſubject of my diſcourſe: You ſhall underſtand that theſe ſwift hounds are, as is before ſaid, out of their haſt, nimbleneſs, and metall, more ſubject to make defaults then other hounds, yet full as curious and good of ſent as any other, as you ſhall perceive by the quick knowledge and apprehenſion of their own errors, caſting about of themſelves, and recovering the ſent, and ſo going away with the ſame, before any Huntſman can come in to help them: yet I would wiſh every Gentleman-like Husband-man, in the compoſition of this Kennell, to have ſome ſtaunch old doggs amongſt them which running more ſoberly, yet cloſe with them, may ſit upon the ſent, when they overſhut it, and ſo call them back, and give them their loſſe without more trouble. Alſo I would have both in this Kennell, and every other, a couple at leaſt of good finders, being doggs ſtaunch of mouth, and not not able to open except they lye upon a certain trayle: for theſe will be great furtherers of your ſport, and make your younger doggs a great deal more mute and painfull.

Of the High-way hounds:

You ſhall alſo in this and all other kennels have at leaſt a couple of good high way dogs, that is to ſay, Hounds of ſuch cunning and perfect ſent, that they will hunt as well upon a dry hard, high-way, (where you cannot pick forth the paſſage of your Chaſe) as upon the freſheſt mould, or will hunt as truly through flockes of ſheep, or heards of beaſts, as upon the grounds where few or no beaſts come; theſe are called Hounds for the high-way, or guides of the Kennel, and are exceeding neceſſary, and fit for all mens pleaſure: for they take from the Huntſman, both ſenſe of paine, and anger.

The kennell for exercise of body.

Laſtly, if you would compoſe a Kennell only for the exerciſe of your owne body, or maintenance of health, you ſhall firſt draw into conſideration your owne ability, as whether you

you will make your exercise on foot, or horse back. If your delight and ability and draw you to hunt on foot, then I would wish you to compose your kennel of the biggest and slowest doggs you can get, respecting only cunning hunting, and depth of mouth; and this kennel you make so staunch and obedient to your command, that when they are upon the hottest sent, or in the earnestness of the chase, to stop before them and cast your hunting pole but before their eyes, they shall suddenly stop, and hunt after you in full cry; with no more speed then it shall please you to lead them; and then when you please, to let them goe before you againe, to pass away with the sent roundly and without stay.

This manner of hunting will carry with it a twofold delight, the one of injoying the musick of their voyces, the other the cunning of their noses: each striving to go before, yet none presuming without leave to goe before: by this rule you shall bring the hottest sent, and the coldest sent to one manner of swiftness, and so neither offend your body with too much, nor too little exercise. But if you wil take your exercise on horseback, because infirmity will not let you run afoot, then you shall compose your kennel of the slowest of middle sized Hounds, who shall have both good mouthes, and loud, and noses of most ready sent, and perfect hunting: and if you bring these hounds also to the former obedience of stopping and hunting after you, it will be exceeding good and delightful, both to your eyes, and ears, and so bring your hounds to temperance and coolness in hunting, that taking the frensie and greedines of hast from their minds, they will make your sport much longer, and less weary then else it would be.

But some will answer me, that albeit they have infirmities, which detaine them from running a foot, or labouring like lackis or drudges, yet they can endure ordinary & orderly walking, such as shall be fit for any moderate exercise; and therefore would hunt on foot: yet the great hound they like not for two causes; first his chargeable and troublesome keeping, and next his noisomness and pestering company in a house that is but streight, and of no more then of necessary use. To these I answer, that it is good for them to keep the little small Mitten-Beagle,

which

which may be companions for a Ladies Kirtle, and in the field will hunt as cunningly as any Hound whatsoever, onely their muſick is very ſmall, like reeds, and their pace like their body, only for exerciſe, and not for ſlaughter.

Of the hounds Kennel.

Having thus compoſed your Kennel of Hounds according to the humor of your own fancy and delight, it ſhall be meet then that you frame a Kennel or houſe to keep them in, wherein they may lye dry, and have their food and other neceſſaryes about them, without troubling your dwelling houſe, or giving offence by the r greedineſs or ravening.

The ſituation of the kennel.

This Kennell for hounds would be placed a pretty diſtance from your dwelling houſe, near ſome river, pond, ſpring, or other freſh water: it would alſo ſtand againſt the ſide of ſome bank or hill, which looking directly againſt the Eaſt, the morning Sunne might riſe upon the ſame, and not loſe the ſight of it till at leaſt two or three houres after noone, which will be a great refreſhing and comfort unto the Hounds, which love naturally to ſtretch, trim, and pick themſelves in the Sunne: againſt the ſide of this hill would be cut or digged divers large and broad ſeats one above another, containing at leaſt five foot in breadth, and two foot and a half in height, which ſeates would be either boarded, or watled with ſtakes and ſmall wands on the ſides to hold up the earth from falling, and alſo cloſe boarded a loft; whereon you ſhall lay freſh and ſweet ſtraw for your dogs to lye upon: the number of theſe ſeats would be according to the number of your hounds, and the quality of the earth in largeneſs: over theſe ſeats would be made a cloſe and well tyled Shed, open no way but upon the Eaſt, and in ſuch manner that it may defend either all, or moſt part of the ſeats from rain, wind, or any tempeſt: from the loweſt part of theſe ſeats forward, you ſhall make a large greene court, being either walled, paled, or otherwiſe very ſtrongly fenced about, in which your hounds may play, ſport, ſcummer and do other offices of nature fit for their health: alſo in this court, in the moſt convenient corner of the ſame, you ſhall build a little houſe or Lodge, with a ſpacious and large Chimney in the ſame, wherein in the winter time you ſhall allow fire, before which your Dogges returned (from hunting) may ſtretch, pick, dry and trim themſelves, which is an exceeding

ing comfort unto them, and will make them more ſtrong and able to endure their labour, & alſo keep them wonderfully wel both from the mangy and other filthy diſeaſes which proceed from colds taken after violent heating. In this Chimny your Huntſman ſhall have a large Cauldron, and other neceſſaries, as ladles, Skummers, & ſuch like; for preparing & making ready of all ſuch warme meat as you ſhall allow to them, which if it be ſweet is called Mange, if otherwiſe Carrion, or garbage: above this lower roome ſhall be your Huntſmans lodging, wherein he ſhall alſo keep his couples, liams, collars, traſhes, boxes, and pots, with ſalves and oyntments, for the cure of ſuch infirmities as ſhall happen amongſt them, and all other neceſſaries any way belonging to his office. In an other part of the court, and neereſt unto the houſe, you ſhall place troughs and tubs, ſome for their meat, and ſome for ſweet Water; all which muſt be kept very neat and cleane; and Water muſt by no meanes at any time be wanting, yet oft renewed and the veſſels ſcowred for ſweetneſs ſake: for the huntſman ought to hold it for a Rule, that nothing bringeth more health then cleanneſſe. Into this kennell you ſhall by no means bring at any time Carrion, becauſe it will make the place unſavory, and unfit for any man of worth to look into, and ſure it ought to bee a place fit for every worthy eye.

Of fee Hounds.

Now your kennell being thus orderly, and well prepared, it is meet that I ſhew what meat is meeteſt for hounds, how it ſhall be prepared, & how they ſhall be fed. Firſt, then intending that I only ſpeak of hunting hounds, that is to ſay, hounds which are in continual uſe & action, you ſhal underſtand that in their dayes of reſt, the ſtrongeſt and luſtieſt meat you can give them both for rayſing them up when they are low hunted, or for keeping them in ſtrength when they have luſt within them, is either horſe-fleſh newly ſlain and warm at the feeding, the intrals and garbage of Beaſts (lungs onely excepted) or the heads, plucks, and bowels of ſheep, or generally any carrion which is not old, nor cold after the death. To feed them for perfectneſs of hunting, and to keep their ſents fine, pure and cleane, or to purge the ſtench of the carrion out of their noſes, that thereby they may undergoe their work with more cunning, the beſt food is to give them

Mang, made either of ground Oates, Barley Meal, Branne, or mil-duſt, well ſcalded and boyled together, or any of theſe two mixt together and ſcalded with beef broath, or any other broath in which fleſh hath been ſodden, ſo as it be not too extreme ſalt.

Now for the uſe and manner of feeding with theſe meats (as I ſaid before) horſe-fleſh, garbage, and other carrion, is onely to breed ſtrength, and luſt in a hound, & is to be given onely when a hound reſteth; becauſe the ſtrength and ſmell of the ſame will ſo cloy and ſtop the hounds noſtrils, that he can hardly diſtinguiſh or undertake any finer ſent, and ſo breed much hindrance to his hunting: Therefore you ought ever to feed your hounds at leaſt the day before you hunt, if not more, with ſweet meat.

Now for the manner of feeding with horſe fleſh, or any other carrion, you ſhall be ſure to have it a good diſtance from your Kennell, and ſo as it may be no annoyance either to your owne neighbours, or travellers in the high Way; then firſt before your Hounds touch it, with your knife take off the skin, then open the body, take out the bowels and rip them, then if the body be more then either your hounds can, on muſt eat, take off a leg, or a ſhoulder, or ſuch part as you think fitteſt to preſerve, and lay it by, then let your hounds feed on the reſt, till their bodies be well filled: which done, draw your hounds home, and upon ſome ſtang for the purpoſe, carry with you that which you ſaved, which as ſoon as you have ſhut up your hounds, you ſhall bear to the River, or freſh Water, and lay in the ſame untill you have occaſion to uſe it: for it will keep it ſweet a week or more at leaſt, if need require.

Now for feeding with Mang, or ſweet meat, it would ever be done the day before you hunt, and as it is to be prepared in the Kennell, ſo you ſhall let them eat it in troughs, within the Kennell, for that will make them take delight in the place: and this Mang muſt ever bee given warm, and made ſomewhat thick, and if you white it over with Milk, or butter-milke, and if you caſt into it chippings, cruſts of bread, bones, broken meat, or ſcrapings of trenchers, it will be better, and they will eat it with more greedineſs.

If

If you have hounds that are poor, weeke, or ſickly, which you would ſuddainly recover and bring unto hunting: Then if you take ſheeps heads, wool and all, and hack, hew, and bruiſe them in many peeces; then boil them with oatemeal, and penny-royal, & make ſtrong pottage of the ſame, and give all together warm to your ſick hounds, and it will ſuddenly recover them; if once in a Weeke alſo you give them a full meal of warme horſe-fleſh, it is very ſoveraigne. Meat for ſick and weake hounds.

Now for the beſt times of feeding, it is held amongſt all our beſt experienc't huntſmen, to be in the dayes of reſt early in the morning before Sun riſe, and in the evening at Sunne ſet; But in the dayes of hunting, you ſhall let them goe faſting out of the Kennel, & feed them as ſoon as you come home to the Kennel, or before in your way homeward, if you have any Horſe-fleſh, or other Carrion readily provided: otherwiſe with ſuch meat as you have, ſo it will fill their bellies; for a hound by no means would be pinched of his belly after his labour, and therefore be ſure if your meat be courſe to fill his guts well; if it be ſweet, ſtrong and comfortable, then leſs will ſerve him. Beſt hours of feeding.

And here I think it meet to ſpeak of a convenient proportion of Food, for the maintenance of a Kennel of good hounds: Wherein you ſhall underſtand that three Buſhels of Oates, or Barley meale, with half ſo much branne or Milduſt, is a fit weekly proportion to keep nine or ten couple of hounds; with a little help of horſe-fleſh, if the huntſman be any good husband, and painfull as he ought to be in finding out horſes, ſcraps, cruſts, and bones, which almoſt abound in every mans houſe of any worth or reckoning, & by imploying that which is ſaved in the dayes of labour to increaſe the proportion when need ſhall require: Many much larger quantities I have knowne, and do know allowed this day in divers places: but I have held it abuſe to the Maſter, and either a covetouſneſs or negligence in the Huntsman, by whoſe unskilfull greedineſs, I have ſeen many tyred out of their pleaſures: Therefore be aſſured this quantity already named will fully ſuffice; nay, even to pleaſe a moſt wanton curioſity, and ſurely much leſs, if a painfull huntſman have the government: for I ſhall never ſee fairer or better kept hounds, then I have ſeen maintained with half this proportion; but as I would not be too A proportion of Meat.

laviſh in my directions, ſo I would much leſs be too ſtrait handed; hoping that every man of honeſty and truſt will order his affairs with diſcretion.

Ordering of Hounds after Hunting.

Now for the ordering of your hounds after they have done hunting, you ſhall if you feed them abroad, or otherwiſe, as ſoon as you bring them into the Kennell, waſh all their feet either with a little warme butter & beer, Beef broth, or water, wherein Mallowes and Nettles have been boyled ſoft and tender, you ſhall pick every cley, and ſearch the foot for thornes, ſtubs, or any other prickings; you ſhall look that the ſtraw whereon they lye, be ſweet and freſh; and if it be in the ſtrength of winter after they are fed, you ſhall ſuffer them for an hour or two to beak and ſtretch themſelves before the fire, ere they goe to lye downe for all night, and by no meanes trouble them as long as they licke, pick, or trim themſelves; but that once finiſhed, you ſhall force them from the fire, and make them find out their Lodgings.

CHAP. 2.

The curing of all manner of infirmities in Hounds.

NExt unto theſe precepts it is meet you be skillfull in curing of all the diſeaſes in hounds, of which as there be many, ſo here you ſhall partake many rules for the ſame, both perfect, and excellently approved by late experience. And firſt of all in as much as it is an infirmity of all other moſt general, natural, and as it were not to be divided from dogs: I will begin with the killing of fleas and lice, & ſuch like vermine in hounds, which proceeds from filthy keeping, rotten and moiſt lodging, and want of ſhifting of ſtraw when it grows ſhort by much lying on: if then your hound be troubled with fleas or lice, you ſhal take Rue or of hearb grace four or five handfull, and boyl it in a gallon of running water till a pottle be ful conſumed, then ſtrain it through a courſe cloth, and put to it two ounces of ſtrong Staveſaker beaten to powder, and being warme, bath your hound therewith and it will deſtroy them.

Of killing fleas and lice.

To kil worms.

If your hound be troubled with wormes, which is very geneneral amongſt them, eſpecially the young hounds, then you ſhall take a pint of new milke and mixe it with a good quantity

tity of Brimſtone, and ſo give it luke-warme unto the hound, and it will not onely ſcowre away all manner of worms, but all other filthineſs bred in the body of a hound, either by labour or ſurfeit.

If your Dogge have been bitten by either Snake, Adder, or any other venomous thing, take the hearb Calamint, and beat it in a morter, with Turpentine and yellow waxe, till it come to a ſalve, and then apply it to the ſore and it will heal it: Alſo if you boile the herb in milke, and give the Dogge it to drink, it will expell all inward poyſon. Biting with venemous beaſts.

If your hound have been bitten with another madde Dogge, which is a diſeaſe exceeding dangerous and mortall, you ſhall preſently waſh the place ſo bitten with Sea water, or a very ſtrong brine, and it will ſave and cure him; or elſe take the herb called Yarrow, and beate a handfull thereof in a morter, with a handful of wheat till it come to a ſalve, and then lay it to the ſore, and it will heal it: and if you pour into his ſtomack as much Mithridate as a hazel nut, diſſolved in ſweet wine, it will wonderfully ſcour and preſerve him from the infection of the inward poiſon. Biting with a Mad dog.

The infirmity of madneſſe it ſelf in Dogs, is common and oft to be ſeen, and though it be altogether incurable, yet if a man be experienced in the firſt ſignes or characters of madneſs, he may prevent divers miſchiefs and moſt mortall evills, which enſue for want of ſuch knowledge: and albe he loſe one dogge, yet he may ſave all the reſt: the firſt ſigne therefore to know when a Dogge is entring into this diſeaſe, is a melancholy ſeparating himſelf from other Dogges, and walking up and down alone, oft caſting up his head into the wind, and looking upward, his taile at the ſetting on riſing upward, and the reſt hanging downe, his mouth will foame and be full of ſlaver or white froth, as he runneth up and downe he will haſtily ſnatch at every thing that he meeteth with, yet, but onely give one ſnatch and away, his eyes will be red and more fiery then other Dogs, and his breath will be ſtrong and of a filthy ſavour: any of theſe ſignes when you ſhall perceive, you ſhall preſently ſeparate him from other doggs and kil him; for unto the diſeaſe is no cure. Of a mad dog and the ſigns.

If your hound be gauld, or his skinne torne in any part, you Of gauling.

ſhall onely take *May* butter, yellow waxe, and a little unſlakt lime beaten together like a ſalve, and therewith anoint the ſore place, and it is a preſent cure.

Of a tetter. If your hound (as they are much incident thereunto) have any tetter or dry ſcab, you ſhall take of black ink, the juice of mints and vinegar, of each alike quantity, and mix them together with the powder of brimſtone til it be thick like a ſalve, and then anoint the tetter therewith til it bleed, and it wil ſoone kil and cure it.

For the itch. If your hound be troubled with the itch, you ſhall take nerve-oyl, and beat it with quickſilver til the quickſilver be kild, and the ſalve turned to a pale yellow colour: then with the ſame annoint the Dog before a good fire, and chafe it well againſt the hair and it will cure him.

Of the Mangy or ſcab. But if your hound be troubled with the ſcab or mangy, then you ſhall take a penny worth or two of the beſt gunpowder you can buy, and mixing it with very ſtrong wine vinegar, make it thick like puddle, then with the ſame anoint all the places where he ſcratcheth til they bleed, and it wil kill the mangy; there be others which do uſe to caſt their dogs into the Lime-pits of Tanners or Glovers, and force them to ſwim up and downe the ſame, and it will kill the mangy; yet there muſt be a great care taken in putting the doggs in, leſt doing it raſhly, the Lime water get into their eyes, which is very dangerous, and wil hazard their burning out.

Of wounds. If your hound ſhall receive any wound, whether it be with ſharp or blunt weapon, or any accident whatſoever, although his owne tongue be a ſoveraigne ſalve, yet if it be in any part, where either he can or cannot licke it, the beſt cure is to waſh it with warme butter and vinegar mixt together, and then anoint it with a little Venice turpentine; but if it be a hollow wound, and muſt of force be tented, then you ſhall either tent it with ſweet butter and oatmeale, wrought together to a ſalve, or with yellow wax and Deer-ſuet; there be ſome that wil uſe for a ſent a ſmall candles end, & it is very good if the tallow be ſweet; but if it be putrified then it wil poyſon aud corrupt the wound.

Of a canker in the eare. If your hound be troubled with a canker in his eares, which is a grief much incident unto them; you ſhall firſt tent the hole

if

if you find any, with dry cork, and after wash the sore with vinegar and Allome, mixt together, till the flesh look raw, and after dry it with burnt Allome onely.

If your Hound be surbaited, you shall wash his feet with butter and bear boiled together, and then bind to the soles of his feet young red nettles, chopt very small, or beaten in a morter till they come to a salve. Of surbaiting.

For any manner of bruise which shall happen to your Hound, either by rush, spurne, stroke or otherwise, if it appear and swell outwardly, you shall bath the place, with chick-weed, and groundsal boiled in strong Ale dregs till they be soft, and it wil allay the swelling; but if the bruise be inward, then you shall with a horne give the dogg a pint of new milk, and a quarter of an ounce of Sperma cæti wel mixt together, or for want of Sperma Cæti, double so much stone pitch beaten to fine powder. Of Bruise

If your hound be troubled with the stone, or other filthy matter, which maketh him that he cannot piss, you shall take the seeds of the herb Granum solis, or Gromel, and bruising them, give them to the hound in halfe a pint of white wine. For the stone

If your hound (as it is naturall to doggs) be so costive that he can by no means skummer, you shall first take a peece of a tallow candle, about three fingers in length, and thrust it a good way into the tuel of the hound, and then hold downe his tayle hard a quarter of an hour or more, and then give it liberty, and when he hath emptied his belly, you shall give him to drink five or sixe spoonefull of Sallet oyle, and it wil cleanse him sufficiently. For costiveness

If your hound be troubled with any disease in his ears, whether it be a continual running, or any other impostumation, you shall take verjuyce and chervile water, and mix them together, and each morning and evening drop a spoonfull or two thereof into the dogs eares, and you shall find it a present remedy. For any disease in the ears.

If your dogge at any time be troubled with sore eyes, of what nature or quality soever the grief be, you shall take a leaf or two of ground ivy, and chewing it wel in your mouth, and sucking out the juyce, spit the same into the dogges eyes morning and evening, and it wil cure them; This ground Ivy is a little round rough jagged leafe, and growes in the bottome of hedges. For sore eyes.

If

If your hound ſhall happen to break a legge or any other bone, you ſhall firſt with your hand place it in his true place, and ſee that it ſtand ſtreight and even, then bath it in the warm oyle of ſwallows, or the oyl of mandrake apples, and wrappe it about two or three times, in a ſeare cloth made of yellow wax and Deere ſuet; which done, ſplent it with flat ſplents of wood, and ſo role it with a ſtrong roler, and let it ſo reſt nine dayes at leaſt, before you unſplent it, but remove not the ſear cloth for fifteen dayes, and you ſhall ſee the bone wil knit ſtrongly and firmly.

CHAP. 3.

Of the breeding of all manner of hounds.

HAving thus paſſed over the election of hounds, compoſition of Kennels, dieting, and curing of all ſorts of diſeaſes, I hold it meeteſt now to follow with ſome ſhort precepts the breeding of Hounds, becauſe it is exceeding hard, for any man to have a Kennell of hounds from gift or purchaſe without much imperfection: for though one Friend give you a good hounda, nother ſel you a good hound, yet how their goodneſſes wil agree when they run together, is very diſputable, and truly unleſs your hounds have one ſpeed, one tunableneſs of voyce, and one manner of hunting, your paſtime wil be much diſorderly, which there is no way to get ſo eaſily and truly, as by the breeding of your hounds, for one and the ſame birth produceth one and the ſame qualities; therefore having a hound and a bratch of that ſize, voice, ſpeed, ſent, proportion, and general goodneſs which agreeth beſt with your own nature and condition, you ſhall put them together to ingender and breed, either in *January*, *February*, or *March*, according as they ſhall grow proud, for thoſe are the three moſt principal months in the year, for hounds, bitches or bratches, to be limed in, not but that they may conceive and bring forth as good Whelps in other months; but becauſe there wil be much loſs of time in the entring of them: for if a bratch be limed in *January*, ſhe wil whelp her Litter in *March*, and ſo they wil be ready to enter in the firſt beginning of hunting-time: if ſhe bee Limed in *February*, ſhe wil whelp in *Aprill*, and if ſhe be Limed in *March*

Hounds Muſt faſe one another.

The Months to breed in.

March, ſhe will whelp in *May* following, and in all theſe three Months there is not a dayes loſſe, for the entring of the whelpes, which is an eſpeciall care to be obſerved of Huntſmen.

Alſo if you ſhall let your hounds ingender in the three months aforeſaid, you ſhall not forget to obſerve as near as you can, that when you put the dog and bitch firſt together, the Moone bee either in the ſigne *Aquarius* or *Gemini*; for it is held amongſt the beſt Huntſmen of this Land, that the whelps which are ingendred under thoſe two ſignes, will never run mad, and for the moſt part, the Litter will have at leaſt double ſo many dogge whelps, as bitch whelps. When your bratch is neer whelping, or hath whelped, you ſhall ſeparate her from other hounds, and have a private kennell for her, where ſhee may be alone without company of other hounds, and you ſhall duly every night ſee her kenneld in the ſame, that ſhe may take acquaintance and delight therein, and when you feed her particularly, you ſhall feed her in that kennel, that taking a love thereto ſhe may not ſeek out other unfit and unwholeſome places to whelp in: for where a bratch firſt whelpeth her Litter, if they be removed, ſhe will not leave carrying her whelps up and down, till ſhe have found the ſame place again, or ſome other perhaps more unfit then the former, and ſuch carriage of whelps by the Dam is very ill and dangerous: this kennell where your whelps ſhall remaine, ſhall not be kept cloſe, but open, that the bratch may have liberty to go up and downe after twenty four hours ſpace, which time ſhe ſhall be kept very well, cloſe, and warm, that ſhe may perform the natural office of a Damme to her whelps.

Vnder which ſignes to breed.

Ordering of Bratches after Whelping.

You ſhall not ſuffer your Whelps to ſuck above two months at the moſt, but then you ſhall Weane them, and if the houſe you keep be of great receit and many Servants, you ſhall let your Cook bring up your beſt whelps, and your Dairy-maid your ſecond beſt, and the reſt you ſhall put forth amongſt your Friends, or Tenants, according unto the love you poſſeſſe in the Country.

When to weane Whelps.

Now when your whelps are brought up, you ſhall not enter them into hunting before they be at leaſt a year and halfe old, as

When to enter Whelps.

thus, if your Whelps were whelpt in *March*, then you ſhall not enter them untill *September* come twelve months after: and if they were whelpt in *Aprill*, then you ſhall enter them in *October* come twelve months after: And ſo forth, for the reſt of the months.

How to enter Whelps.

Now for the manner of your entring of whelps, you ſhall draw them abroad in the pleaſanteſt of the day, with the moſt ſtaunch and beſt hunting hounds you have, leaving at home all babling and flying Curres, and if you can, you ſhall have your hare ready ſet before you come, (for the hare is the principal chaſe you can enter whelps upon) and then putting her from her forme, and viewing perfectly which way ſhe taketh, after the ſent is a little cooled, lay on your hounds, and give them all the advantages you can for the hunting of her, as by wind, view, hollow, or pricking her paſſage; and if they ſhall chance to kill her; you ſhall immediately take her from the hounds, and not ſuffer them to break her, for it is an evill cuſtome: but your ſelfe ſtripping away the skinne, ſhall cut her all to peeces, and give every part of her to your young whelpes, which will breed in them great courage and delight in hunting.

Obſervations in the entring of whelps.

You ſhall obſerve in the entring of your young whelps, that they hunt fair and even, without advantage, or ſeeking any way to gaine eaſe, as by lying off from the ſent, thwarting, or croſſing when they are behind to get even with the formoſt hounds: any of which when you ſhall perceive, you ſhall immediatly beat them in with your hunting-pole, and compell them to take the ſent before them: alſo if any of them be giddy headed, and out of mettle will run before the other hounds clean from the ſent, in this caſe alſo you ſhall beat them ſoundly back, and bring them back to the ſent, and force them to take it with the reſt of the Kennell. Alſo if any young hound will not ſtrike upon a default, but run babling away without the ſent, drawing away the reſt of the Kennel to follow him; in this caſe alſo you ſhall ſcourge him back, and compell him to ſtand and labour upon the default, till ſome of the elder hounds undertake it, then you ſhall cheriſh all, both with horne and voyce into the Chaſe.

Laſtly if you find that any of your young Whelpes truſt more

to

to his owne ſent, then to the reſt of his fellowes, and ſo by that meanes hunteth at leaſt twenty foote ſometimes behind the reſt, making his defaults by his own noſe, and not their owne leading, yet hunteth very juſt and true: In this caſe you ſhall by no meanes overgoe, or over ride the Whelp, but give him all comfort and encouragement you can, and let him take his own time and leiſure, for uſe and experience wil quickly make him skilfull, and the skil wil ſoon carry him up, amongſt his fellowes, where he wil ſoon become a principall Leader: and thus much for Houndſ, end the compoſition of kennels.

CHAP. 4.

Of all the ſeveral Chaſes which Hounds are to hunt.

THere hath already (by many well experienced men) been ſo much written of this Subject, that I know not wel what to write, except I ſhould in ſome ſort repeat another mans tale: from which I am ſo far different (having vowed to my ſelf, by no means to meddle with any thing formerly written (that the ſtricteſt examiner whatſoever, ſhall not find me guilty of the leaſt blemiſh therein: yet ſince I muſt neceſſarily in this caſe write ſomething, I will as briefly as I can ſet downe ſome materiall and ſpeciall notes, and for the maine ſubſtance, if they deſire a long continued circumſtance (though this is ſufficient for any underſtanding wit) referre them unto old *Triſtrams* book, tranſlated by Mr. *Turbervile*, and ſuch other Books, where they may find compleat ſatisfaction.

To ſpeak then firſt of the Stagge, which is the moſt Princely and royall Chaſe of all Chaſes, and for whom indeed this Art of Hunting was firſt found out, and invented, he is of all beaſts the goodlieſt, ſtatelieſt, and moſt manly, and for the uſe of Man the fulleſt both of outward and inward profit, as in his fleſh for the nouriſhment of mans body, and in his other members for helps in phyſick: as the bone in his heart, which is Soveraign for all inward faint ſickneſſes, for poyſon, the Plague, and hard Travail in women; his blood excellent for all kind of fluxes, The hunting of the Stagge

and to make the skin white and ſmooth; his pizel good for the Colick and bloody flux; His Horne a moſt ſoveraigne Cordial againſt venome; his ſuet good for ſwellings, Gouts and Humors; and his skinne, which is ever a during and Gentlemanly cloathing: and of Stagges the oldeſt and greateſt is the beſt.

How to know an old Stag.

The perfect ſigns to know an old Stagge by are theſe; if when you take his view upon the ground, you ſee hee hath a large foot, a thicke heele, and a deep printing, an open cleft, and a long ſpace, then be aſſured he is old; alſo if his legge be long, and his bone thick, it ſhewes age, beſides your old Stagg doth not over-reach when your younger Deer doth, alſo you ſhall know his age by his ordure, as thus, if it be printed (as it wil be from *July* to *Auguſt*) or writhen round, or flat, or broad, as it wil be in *June*, and therewithall be groſs and fatty, then he is an old Stag, but if contrarily ſmall and dry, then he is but a young Deer: againe, you ſhall know his age by the tines of the hornes, for if he have ten, twelve or fourteen tines, he is a Deer of reaſonable age, but if the beame be thick and great, then he is an old Deere, ſo if he carry but ſome ſix or eight tines, and a ſmall beame, then he is a young Deer, and not above three or four years old, for the red Deere is ſaid the firſt year to have no head, the ſecond but onely daggers, and the third tines.

The caſt of Heads.

Stags yeerly caſt their heads in *March*, *April*, *May*, or *June*, and in no other months, according to the goodneſs of the ſoile wherein they feed, for the richeſt ground beareth ever the earlieſt Deere, and a Deer is never ſaid to be in ſeaſon, nor may he by good rule bee hunted til he have caſt his head.

How to find a Deere.

The principal quality in a huntſman is to know how and where to find a Deer, for if he be ignorant in their haunts, he may wander long, and loſe much labour. Therefore he ſhall know that a red Deere naturally haunteth in *November* amongſt Furres, Whins, or thick ſhrubs; In *December* amongſt thick and ſtrong woods; In *January* in Corne-fields of Wheat and Rye, In *February* and *March* amongſt young and thick buſhes; In *April* and *May* in Coppiſes and Springs; In *June* and *July* in outwoods, and purlews which are neareſt unto greene Corne, and

and in *September* and *October*, after the firſt ſhowers of raine, they goe to Rut.

Now when the Huntſman wil at any time ſearch any of theſe places to find his game, he muſt be carefull by no means to go downe, but up the wind, for a Deere is of moſt dainty ſent, and upon the leaſt fault will fly and leave his feed: therefore he muſt come charily and cloſely, with a quick ear, and a ready eye.

The Hunting of the Stag.

Now for the beſt time to find out your Game, is early, before Sunne riſe, at which time the Deer goeth to his food: from whence you ſhall watch unto his Leire, and having lodged him, you may returne home and prepare all things for the dayes hunting: for be aſſured, except violently compeld, he will not ſtir until Evening.

Now for the manner of his hunting: you ſhall firſt caſt off your finders, neer his place of lodging, & after they have hunted him about a ring or two, you ſhal caſt in the reſt of your hounds, and being in full cry and main chaſe, you ſhall give them comfort both with horne and ſight of the Deer, and take what eſpecial notes or marks you can from him, ſo that as much as is poſſible you may know him from any other Deere; then at every default, as ſoone as the hounds are in cry againe, you ſhall make into the hunted Deer and view him, and if you find it to be a freſh Deer, you ſhall rate the dogs, and bring them back to the default, and there make them caſt about againe, until they have undertaken the firſt hunted Deer, then give them comfort by hollowing & Gibelts, and ſo continue the chaſe til you have either ſet up the Deer or ſlain him, ever and anon having a watchfull eye unto change, for it is the nature of a Deere, when he is once imboſt, or weary, to ſeek where he may find another Deer, and to beate him up and lay himſelfe downe in his place.

To know when a Stagge is weary, you ſhall ſee him imboſt, that is, foaming and ſlavering about the mouth with a thick white froth, his hair wil look black, ſhining and foul with ſwear, and he will tappiſh ſoft, that is, he wil ever and anon be lying down & lurking in dark holes and corners, and for his laſt

To know when a Stag is weary

Refuge he wil betake himſelf to the ſoyl, which is, he will leape (if he can) into rivers, ponds, or other water, out of which you ſhall force him either by art or ſtrength: And thus much for the Chaſe or hunting of the Stagge.

Of the Buck. Now for the Hunting of the Buck: foraſmuch as they are moſt uſually kept in Parks, and that every Keeper, which is worthy be a Keeper may ſooner from his owne experience then from any Reading, get the experience of the ground he tendeth, and ſith he is bound both by the Laws of Huntſmen and good manners to give every man contentment that is priviledged to hunt in his ground: And ſith whoſoever can hunt a Stagge well, cannot hunt a buck ill, the red Deer being ever far more curious to hunt, then the Fallow, I wil not ſpend any more time to write of it, but referre you to thoſe Rules which are already Rehearſed.

Of the Hare Touching the hunting of the hare, which is every honeſt mans, and good mans chaſe, and which is indeed the freeſt, readieſt, and moſt induring paſtime, and likewiſe in its own kind, full of good profit for mans Preſervation: For though the beaſt be but

Of her profits: little, yet are the members worth injoyment, as the fleſh, which is good for all manner of Fluxes; the braines good to make children breed their teeth with eaſe; the wool excellent to ſtanch bloud; the Gall ſoveraign for ſore eyes; the blood which wil kil Rhume, and worms; the ſtiffling bone, which being worn, taketh away the pain of the Cramp, with many other good things beſides.

The hunting of the hare. Touching the hunting of the Hare you are firſt to regard the place of hunting, as whether it be in woods, or Champain: if in woods, you ſhall not caſt off your dogs in th thickeſt of the covert, but rather beat the buſh cloſe, or ſhrubby ground near adjoyning to the covert: for though in the woods you may ſooner find a hare; yet commonly you ſhall find ſuch change therewithall, that you ſhall hardly bring any forth to weſt your pleaſure, where on the contrary part, if you find any in thoſe neighbouring grounds, ſhe wil preſently fly forth into the champane: becauſe naturally a hare will refuſe the covert, till ſhe

Where to find hares. begin to be weary; aud a hare being once heated, is not ſo eaſily

ſily loſt upon a freſh change, as when the ſents are of equall coolneſs. If you hunt in the champane, you ſhall firſt beat thoſe places which are moſt likely, as where Gorſe or whinnes grow, or in grounds that are all tusks of ruſhes, ſhort linge, bramble buſhes, or ſuch like: or if the champaine be more plaine and void of ſuch places, then you ſhall at the beginning of the year repair to the ſhrubs, about Chriſtmas to the fallows, and in *March* to the green Corne; for thoſe are the moſt uſual haunts for the beſt hares, and in all theſe places you ſhall regard the Forme, or Hares ſeat well, and know whether it be old or new, as if the forme be plaine and ſmooth within, the padde before it flat and worne, and the pricks ſo new, and eaſie to be ſeen, that the earth appear black, and as it were preſently broken, then is the forme new, and if the Hounds call upon it, then may you hunt from thence, and upon the traile recover that hare: but if the forme look old and rough within, and the padde it ſelf be not ſmooth, nor any pricks to be diſcerned therein, then it is old, and if the Hounds call upon it, you ſhall rate them, for the ſent is old, and all the labour will be loſt you ſpend upon it.

The knowledg of the hares forme.

The next thing you obſerve muſt be the ſhifts and ſleights of the hare, when ſhe is wearily hunted, as her doublings and windings, and at every default give the Hounds leiſure enough and compaſs enough in the caſting about of your rings for the unwinding of the ſame; then you ſhall obſerve her leapes and skips before ſhe ſquat, and beat all thoſe places very curiouſly which are likely to give her any harbour, and though the loſſe ſeeme never ſo dangerous, yet not to be diſcouraged, but to continue your ſearch, becauſe when ſhee commeth to thoſe hard ſhifts ſhee is at the laſt caſt, and cannot ſtand long before the *Hounds*. Many other circumſtances there are, but they are ſo generally knowne to allmoſt every man that any way affecteth this pleaſure, that it is needleſſe to make further relation thereof; and therefore I hold this ſufficient for the hunting of the Hare.

The hares ſleights and ſhifts

Now for the hunting of the Fox, or Badger, they are chaſes of

The hunting of the Fox or Badger.

of a great deal leſſe uſe or cunning then any of the former, becauſe they are of much hotter ſent, as being intituled ſtinking ſents and not ſweet ſents, and indeed very few dogges but will hunt them with all eagerneſſe; therefore I will not ſtand much upon them, but adviſe you to reſpect well their haunts and coverts, which commonly is in woods and buſhy places, and to take knowledge of their earths, and Kennels, and as near as you can when you goe about to hunt them, to ſtop up their Kennells, and keepe them out that fling forth, that they may bee the ſooner brought to their deſtruction; the chaſe is profitable and pleaſant for the time, inſomuch as there are not ſo many defaults, but a continuing ſport, yet not ſo much defired as the reſt, becauſe there is not ſo much art and cunning; and thus much for chaſes, and the general uſe of all kind of Hunting.

The end of Hunting.

Of

Of Hawking.

CHAP. 5.

Of the Hawking with all ſorts of Hawks, and the whole Art thereof.

IF your Engliſh Husband-man ſhall for his Recreation, chuſe the pleaſure of Hawking, which is a moſt Princely and ſerious delight; he ſhal underſtand that al Hawks are divided into two kinds, the long winged Hawk, and the ſhort: the long winged Hawks which are meet for our Husband-mans Recreation, are the *Faulcon gentle*, and her *Tercell*; the *Gerfaulcon* and her *Genkin*, the *Saker*, the *Lanner*, the *Barbary Faulcon*, the *Merlin*, *and the Hobby*: and the ſhort winged *Hawks are the Goſhawk*, the *Tercell* of the *Goſhawk*, the *Sparrowhawk*, *and the Musket*. Kinds of Hawks.

The *Faulcon gentle*, which is the principall of *Hawks* may be made either for the field or river, and will fly either at the Partridge or at the Mallard; the *Gerfaulcon* will fly either at the Herron; the Saker at the Crane or Bitter; the *Lanner* will flye at the Partridg, Pheaſant, or Choffe; the Barbary-Faulcon at the Partridge, onely; the Merlin and the hobby at the Larke, or any ſmall bird whatſoever: the Goſhawk, or Tercell of Goſhawk at the Partridge, Pheaſant, or Hare; the Sparrow-hawk at the Partridge or Black bird, and the Musket at the Buſh onely, and all theſe Hawks are hardy, meek, and loving to the man. The flight of Hawks.

The manning of Hawks.

All Hawkes generally are manned after one manner, that is to ſay, by watching and keeping them from ſleep, by a continuall carrying them upon your fiſt, and by a moſt familiar ſtroaking and playing with them, with the Wing of a dead Foule or ſuch like, and by often gazing and looking them in the face, with a loving and gentle countenance, and ſo making them acquainted with the man.

of Luring Hawks.

After your Hawks are manned, you ſhall bring them to the Lure by eaſie degrees, as firſt making them jump unto the fiſt, after fall upon the Lure, then come to the voyce, and laſtly, to know the voyce and Lure ſo perfectly, that either upon the ſound of the one, or ſight of the other, ſhe wil preſently come in and be moſt obedient, whith may eaſily be performed, by giving her reward when ſhe doth your pleaſure, and making her faſt when ſhe diſobeyeth: ſhort wing'd hawks ſhall be called to the fiſt only, and not to the Lure; neither ſhall you uſe unto them the loudneſs and variety of voyce, which you do to the long winged Hawks, but only bring them to the fiſt by chirping your lips together, or elſe by the whiſtle: And in this manner of Luring and calling of hawks, (for ſhort-winged hawks are ſaid to be called and not Lured) you ſhall ſpecially acquaint your hawke with three things: Firſt boldneſs and acquaintance with Men, Dogs, and Horſes; then that ſhe be eager and ſharp ſet before the Lure be ſhewed her, knowing both the morning and evening hours of her luring; and laſtly to delight her the more with the Lure, to have it ever garniſhed on both ſides with warm and bloody meate.

The bathing of Hawks.

When your Hawks are throughly manned and lured, and are come to the height of fleſh and good luſt, you ſhall then ſpy out a fair day when the weather and aire is moſt temperate, and carry your hawk to ſome fair, little, ſhallow, ſandy, running Brook, or Rundle, where the water is quiet and ſtill, and where your hawk may ſtand up to the mid thigh therein, and having prickt her down and made her faſt hard by the verdge thereof, you ſhal take off her hood, and go a little way from her, and ſee where ſhe wil bath therein; but if you find her fearfull of the water, you ſhall with a little ſtick paddle in the water a while be-

before her, and then depart from her againe, and let her then bath therein as long as ſhe pleaſeth: this done, you ſhall take her upon your fiſt and give her a bit or two of meate, then hold her in the Sun, & let her pick, prune, & dry her ſelf again: if you cannot come to any River, Brook, or Rundle conveniently, then you ſhall provide either a large baſon, or a broad ſhallow tub, and ſo it let your Hawke bathe as oft as occaſion ſhall ſerve, for this bathing giveth a Hawk courage, boldneſs, and a great appetite, and would commonly be uſed the day or morning before any flight: If it be in the winter that your Hawk batheth, when no Sun ſhineth, you may then dry her as well by the gentle air of the fire as otherwiſe.

To enſeame your Hawk, which is to cleanſe her from greaſe, fat and glut, which lieth inwardly in her body, and which you ſhall know by her round thighs, her fleſh, and full mewtings; then when you feed her in the morning, give her a bit or two of hot meat, and the night following little or nothing, then morning and evening after feed her upon the fleſh of a Rooke waſht in two waters, til you feel the pinions of her wings more tender than they were before, then give her caſting according to her nature, as was before ſhewed, and once in two or three dayes give her a hens neck wel joynted and waſht in water, which will by the ſharpneſs thereof breake the kells and filmes of fat which are in her body; then every morning you ſhall give her a quick traine Pidgeon, and keep her ſo long upon her wing that by her own moderate exerciſe, ſhe may melt and diſſolve the greaſe that moleſteth her, which after it is broken you may take away, by giving her three or foure pellets of the root of Sellandine, as bigge as garden peaſe, well waſht and ſcowred, and if you ſteep thoſe pellets in the ſirrup of Roſes, the ſcouring is much ſtronger. *Of enſeaming, giving caſting and ſcowring.*

When your Hawk is manned, lured, and enſeamed, you ſhall then bring her to her flight, which if it be at the Pheaſant or Partridge in woody and cloſe grounds, then you ſhall when you lure the hawke, caſt your lure into ſome low Tree or Buſh, that thereby you may bring her to take the ſtand, which when ſhe doth you ſhall then draw out your lure, and giving her notice thereof, make her ſeize thereon, and ever feed her on *Of flying at the Pheaſant or Partridge.*

the ground and under a bush, the practise whereof wil bring her to delight in the stand, and to mark all the advantages which he shall get from thence, then bringing her to either Pheasant or Partridge, make her fly at a young one first, that being more foolish and easier slain, she may take delight in her conquest. But if you fly any long-winged Hawk in the champane, then you shall by all means possible keep her from the stand, and only maintain her upon her wing till you spring the Partridge underneath her, and then stooping upon the advantage, the prey can hardly escape her: yet for the more sure killing of the game and entring of young Hawkes, you shall first spring the Partridge and mark them, then being come to the mark cast off your Hawk, and when she is gotten to the height of her gate lay in your Spannels, and then retriving the Partridge underneath, her after the first flight it is impossible she should escape: And in this sort you may fly all manner of long-winged hawkes, for it is not proper to fly them from the fist, although most of our late Faulconers now adayes use it; but for your short-winged hawkes, you shall fly them from the fist onely: And therefore to make them hardy and valiant, you shall first enter them at an old field Partridge, laid in a hole, and covered either with a sodde, board, or hat, at which you shall fasten a small Creance, and then uncoupling your Spannels, as they are ranging about, suddainly, when your Hawkes head is towards the Partridge, pluck of the sodde or hatte, and let the traine go, and the Hawke after it, which as soone as she hath slain, reward her very well, and thus doing twice or thrice you may after venture to fly her at your pleasure.

Of flying at foules.

To make your Hawk fly at fowle, which is called the flight at the River, you shall first whistle off an approved well quarried Hawk that is a sure killer, and let her enew the fowle so long till she bring it to the plunge: then take her downe and reward her, and set her by, yet so as you may have her ready to use at your pleasure: then whistle off your young hawke, and when she is at the height of her gate, and that you have shewed her water divers times to make her the more inward, and by a gibbet cal'd her in, when at any time shee hath looked out, Then being just over the fowl, make in with all your company on every side the River

River, and ſo lay forth the fowle, which if your hawk ſtoop, ſtrike and truſſe, you ſhall preſently make into her, and help her, and then creſſing the fowles wings, or breaking them, let your hawke take her pleaſure thereon, but if ſhe doe not ſlay the foul at the firſt ſtooping, then you ſhall give your hawke pleaſure to recover her gate again, and then lay forth the foul as before, not leaving thus to do till you have landed it, and that the hawke hath ſlain it, and then reward her as beforeſaid: But if ſuch a miſchiefe ſhall fall out that the foul do ſcape and break away: then you ſhall be ſure to have a little Mallard ready in your bag, which you may caſt forth, and ſo reward your hawke thereon.

Helps for faults in long winged hawkes, and firſt of the ſtand.

If your long winged hawke flying at the River or in champane fields uſe to take ſtand which is a foul fault, you ſhall firſt by all means ſhun flying neer Trees or Covert: but if that do not ſuffice, then you ſhall have divers traines in divers mens hands: and when the hawk offers to go to the ſtand, let which is next her caſt out his traine, and if ſhe kill it, reward her: this doing once or twice will reclaime, or nothing.

Againſt frowardneſs.

If your hawk through pride of greaſe or otherwiſe be froward and coy, you ſhall not when ſhe kils reward her as you were wont, but conveying ſome other cold meat cunningly under her let her take her pleaſure thereon; and ever with the meat give her ſome feathers which may ſcowr her and make her to caſt, for this will recover her ſtomack, and make her more carefull and diligent.

To make a hawk inward.

If your hawk be of a wild and ſtirring nature, and will not look inward towards the man with her head, but rake and gaſe after every check, neither reſpecting whooping or gibbeting, in this caſe you muſt follow her and lure her back, and as ſoon as ſhe turneth in her head, ſhow her the Lure, to which if ſhe ſtoop, then preſently reward her, and thus do ſo oft as ſhe rangeth, till ſhe be brought unto that Love to your voyce and affection to the Lure, that ſhe will forget her other extravagant thoughts.

When your hawk is brought to fly to an extraordinary high pitch, to maintain and keep her in the ſame manner of flying ſtill, you ſhall not fly her above one flight in a day at the moſt;

for nothing bringeth her down more then over wearineſs: Alſo you ſhall then not keep too extream a ſtraight hand upon her, for the too much greedineſs of the Quarry makes her ſlake her flying. Alſo you ſhall not fly her upon Rundles or ſmall brooks, but upon plaſhes and broad Rivers, you ſhall not ſuffer her to fly too long, but after two or three ſtoopings, and a croſſing, although ſhe miſs it, take her down with the Lure or traine, and reward her, for this encouragement will maintaine her in her goodneſs.

To bring hawks upward.

If your hawke be high flying, yet ſloathfull to goe to her Gatte, or elſe now and then ſtooping before there be cauſe, and ſo loſing her way, which many times happeneth when either the hawk is kept too ſharp, or flown out of her due time, any of which faults when you perceive, you ſhall then upon the doing thereof give her a dead Quarry, and then hood her up without reward, and an hour or two after call her to the Lure, and feed her: and thus do as oft as ſhe offendeth. yet for the more ſure prevention thereof, I would have every Faulconer to try the natural diſpoſition of his hawke, and find whether ſhe flyeth better on a ſtreight hand, or an open, and whether early or late, and ſo forth, and according to her own nature ever to keep her.

Faults in ſhort winged hawks. firſt of turning taile.

Short winged Hawkes, as *Goſhawks* and *Sparrow hawks*, will many times neither kill their Game, nor fly their Game to mark, but will give it over after a little flying, and (as Faulconers term it) turn tail to it, which when you ſee, you ſhall incourage your Dogges to hunt and caſt before your hawk a train Partridge, as it were the wild one, and make her ſeize it, and feed well upon it, to encourage her the better; and thus do twice or thrice, which if you ſee it prevail not, then eſteem her not, but make her away, for ſhe will hardly ever be Reclaimed.

If a Hawk will not fly at all.

Hawks that have never been acquainted with prey, will many times not fly at all; but taking a tree, will ſit and look after the game, which fault to amend you ſhall ever feed her upon quick Birds, and make her foot them, and then going into the field, which is Champane and plain, after you have rid up and down a pretty ſpace with the hawk unhooded, you ſhal cauſe one of your company to caſt out a field Partridge before your hawke: Then

let

let her fly at it, and ſo ſoone as ſhe hath tooted it, let her feed thereon at her pleaſure, and do thus three or four times, till ſhe be well in blood, and you ſhall find her valiant quickly.

If your hawke be ſo fond of the man, that ſhe will not fly from him, but after a ſtroke or two, return to him againe: you muſt then but ſeldom be familiar with her, and let her rather feed her ſelfe then be fed by you, and as oft as ſhe commeth ſo unpreperly unto you, you ſhall give her no reward; but when ſhe forſaketh you and killeth the game, then you ſhall well reward her, and then make her both familiar with Men, Dogges, and Horſes, for to take toy or diſlike to any of them, is a mischiefe a great deal worſe then the former. To much fondnes of the man.

To ſpeak of the Mewing of long winged Hawkes, you ſhall underſtand that ſhe may be ſet downe, that is, put into the Mew about the middle of *Aprill*, at which time if you find they have any lice you ſhall pepper them, and put them into the Mew, which if it be a low place upon the ground free from noiſe, vermine, or any evill aire, then it is called mewing at the ſtone or ſtock; but if you mew in any high roome with open windowes towards the *North*, or *North-eaſt*, then it is called mewing at large: If you mew at the ſtock, you ſhal have a broad Table in the midſt of the roome, on which you muſt place ſand, gravell, ſtones, ſods, and tubs for water, and in the midſt of theſe a free-ſtone or block of two foot high, to which you ſhall faſten your hawke with a turvell of iron, ſo that at no time her leaſe may be intangled; this manner of mewing may be in the *Faulconers* own bed-chamber, or in any other ſafe Room at his pleaſure, the beſt meat in the Mew is any quick birds or foul, dogs fleſh and ſuch like: If you mew your hawk at large, you ſhall put her looſe into the mew, having ſundry pearches therein, ſome high ſome low for her uſe to ſit on; and in this mew alſo you ſhall have ſand, ſtones, gravell, green ſods and water, all which you ſhall renew as oft as need do require, and in the midſt of them a block or two wherein to ty her meat, which meat ſhall be the ſame formerly ſpoke of, and given at certain and due times, without fail or alteration. Mewing of long winged hawks. Mewing at the ſtone. Mewing at large.

If you intend to mew a ſhort winged hawke, as the Goſhawk or ſuch like, you ſhall in *March* after you have ſcowred her, and made

made her clean from lice, cut off her the Ieſſe, and throw her into Mew looſe, either in a high room or a low room at your pleaſure; let her perches be lined with canvaſſe, or with wollen liſts for the ſafety of her feet, let her have ſtore of water for bathing & oft renewed, and ſtore of meat, as live Pidgeons, warme Mutton, warm Goat, or Doggs-fleſh, any of which will make her mew quickly.

When to draw Hawks.

Hawkes for the field would be drawne from the Mew in *June*, and made ready to fly in *Auguſt*, at which time Corne is cut and Game is ſtrong: and hawkes for the River would be drawn in *Auguſt*, that they may be ready to flye in *September*.

Diſeaſes in Hawks.

Hawkes have divers infirmities and diſeaſes, as Feavers, Palſey, Impoſtumes, ſore eyes, and Nares, Megrims, Pantas, caſting her Gorge, foulneſs of Gorge, Wormes, Fillanders, ill Liver, or Gout, Pinne in the foot, breaking the pounce, Bones out of joint, Bones broken, Bruiſes, Lice, Colds, Frounce, Fiſtulaes, Stone, much gaping, more foundring, privy evill, taint in the Feathers, loſs of appetite, broken wind, blow on the Wing, wounds, ſwellings, eating their own feet, taking up of veines in Hawkes, Cramp, and a world of others: All which foraſmuch as I have ſhewed the Medicines, and cures thereof in the fromer Treatiſe called *Cheap and good*, I will refer you unto the ſame, and not doubt but it will give you ſatisfaction.

CHAP. 6.

Of Courſing with Grey-hounds, and the Excellencies of that ſport.

Of Courſing with Grey-hounds.

NOw if the mind of our Husbandman be not ſo generally taken with the delight and pleaſure of this recreation of Hawking, but that he preferreth before it the delight of Courſing with Grey-hounds, which is a very noble and worthy paſtime, he ſhall in it obſerve theſe four things, the Breed of Grey-hounds, their Shape, their dyet, and the Lawes belonging to the ſame.

Breeding of Grey hounds.

Touching the breed of Grey hounds you are principally to reſpect the Countries in which they are bred, and nouriſhed

riſhed, as that it be a champane plain and without covert, where a hare may ſtand forth and indure a courſe of two miles, or more, as it ſhall happen (for the courſing of a hare is that which I purpoſe moſt to entreat of) becauſe in a cloſe country full of covert, where a hare cannot run above a quarter of a mile or leſs, both the pleaſure of the recreation is taken away, and the Grey-hound by an inſufficient exerciſe is made unapt, and unfit for that for which he was created.

Now of champane countries, they are of three kinds, as the Low vales, as are the vale of *Belvoire*, the vale of white *Horſe*, the vaile of *Eaſham*, and ſuch like, the high Downes and Heaths, as about *Salisbury*, *Ciſſeter*, *Lincoln*, and many ſuch like places, and the middle between both; as the County of *Narthampton*, and *Leiceſter*, and others like them: All which are very excellent places for the breeding and trayning up of the beſt Grey-Hounds; yet of the three, your vallies or middle ſoyles, which for the moſt part are arable grounds, are much better to breed and train on, then your downes and heaths, becauſe they are much more labourſome, rough, heavy, and in the winter ſeaſon full of much trouble and falſe root-hold, in ſo much that a Dogge which is able to run ſtrongly, ſwiftly, and ſurely there, muſt neceſſarily do it ten times better when he comes to the ſmooth plaine and carpet-like downe, where on the contrary the dogge which is trained upon thoſe even Downes, though he be right Famous and excellent, when hee comes to run in the deep well plowed field, is to ſeek where to beſtow his feet, and can neither ſhew ſpeed, cunning, nor indurance.

Beſt places for breed.

The beſt Grey-hounds.

Now the Gentlemen which dwell on the Downes and plain grounds, to maintaine the reputation of their dogs affirm them to be much more nimble and cunning in turning, then the vale dogs be, becauſe the fairneſs of Earth giveth them ſo much advantage over the Hare, that having her even (as it were) in a manner under their feet, ſhe is put more to her ſhifts, and ſtrives with greater art of ſleights to deceive, and get advantage of the Grey-hound: And it is true, for by reaſon of the advantage of their hils, which are great and ſteep, though ſmooth and plaine, I have ſeen a vale Dog ſo much deceived, that upon a turn, hee hath loſt more ground then hath been recoverable in the whole

Nimbleneſs in Greyhounds.

course after: but this is no want of goodness but a little skill, which a months courſing will bring a Dog ſo ſufficiently unto, that he wil not need any other reformation then the knowledge of his errour, by his loſs of Labour. So that I conclude the good Dogge upon the deeps will ever beat the good Dogges on the plaine.

Difference between Doggs and Bitches.

It is an old received opinion amongſt many men of the Leaſh, that the Grey-hound bitch, will ever beate the Grey-hound dog, by reaſon of her more nimbleneſs, quickneſſe and agility: And it is ſometimes ſeen that a perfect good Bitch indeed, hath much advantage of an ordinary Dog: but if the good Dog meet with the good Bitch, there is then no compariſon, but the Dog will be her Maſter; in as much as he exceedeth her both in length and ſtrength, the two main helps in courſing; for her nimbleneſs is then no help: ſith a good Dog in the turne will looſe as little ground, as any Bitch whatſoever.

Dogs and Bitches for breed.

Yet thus much I would perſwade all Gentlemen of the Leaſh to be very carefull in their breeding, to breed upon the beſt bitches they can provide, for it is found in experience that the beſt Dogge upon an indifferent Bitch will not get ſo good a Whelp, as an indifferent dogge upon the beſt bitch: And amongſt theſe obſervations in breeding Grey-hounds, you ſhall obſerve to have your dogges and bitches of equall and indifferent ages, as about three or four years old at the moſt; but in caſe of need, your bitch will indure a great deal longer then your dogge, and to breed with a young dogge on an old bitch, may bring forth an excellent whelp.

The ſhapes of Grey hounds.

Touching the ſhapes of Grey hounds (from whence you ſhall take the beſt Collections for their goodneſſes) they are certain and moſt infallible: Therefore touching Greyhounds, when they are puppies or young whelps, thoſe which are moſt raw-bon'd, lean, looſe made, ſickle or crooked hought, and generally unknit in every member, are ever likely to make the beſt doggs and moſt ſhapely: but ſuch as in the firſt three or four months, are round, and cloſe truſt, fat, ſtreight, and as it were full ſum'd and knit in every member, never proove good, ſwift or comely.

Now after your Dogge comes to full growth, as at a year and a halfe, or two years old, hee would then have a fine long lean head

head, with a ſharp noſe ruſh-growne from the Eye downward: A full clear eye with long Eyelids; a ſharp Eare ſhort and cloſe falling, a long neck a little bending, with a looſe hanging wezand, a broad breaſt, ſtrait forelegs, ſide hollow, ribs ſtraight, a ſquare and flat back, ſhort and ſtrong fillets, a broad ſpace between the Hips, a ſtrong ſtearne or tayle, and a round foot, and good large cleſts. Now for the better help of your memory, I will give you an old Rime, left by our Fore-fathers, from which you ſhall underſtand the true ſhapes of a perfect Grey-hound, and this it is.

If you will have a good tike,
Of which there are few like,
He muſt be headed lie a Snake,
Neckt like a Drake,
Backt like a Beame,
Sided lik a breame,
Tayled like a Rat,
And footed like a Cat.

Theſe being the principall members of a good Grey-hound, if they reſemble the proportions of the things above named, the dogg cannot chuſe but be moſt perfect.

Dyetting of Grey-hounds to courſe.

When you have thus a perfect and well ſhap't Greyhound, your next rule is to apply your ſelfe to the dyeting and ordering of him, for the pleaſure to which you keep him, that bringing him to the uttermoſt height or ſtrength of wind, you may know the uttermoſt goodneſs that is within him, which diſorderly and foul keeping will conceale, and you loſe a Jewell for want of knowledge of the value.

Of what dyeting conſiſteth.

Dyetting then of Grey-hounds conſiſteth in foure eſpeciall things, to wit, food, exerciſe, ayring, and kennelling, the firſt nouriſhing the body, the ſecond the limbs, the third the wind, and the laſt the ſpirits.

Of food.

To ſpeak then firſt of food, it is two fold, either general, or particular; general as for a continual upholding and maintaining of a dog in good ſtate of body, being in good plight and liking; or particular, when a dog is either poore, ſick,

or prepared for wager, ſtandeth in need of particular foods of advantage.

Of generall food.

The beſt general foods for the ordinary upholding of a dog in a good ſtate is chippings, cruſts of bread, ſoft tender bones or griſſels of Veale, Lamb, or ſuch like, firſt ſcalded in beefe-broth not very ſalt, other broath in which hath been boiled, or Mutton, Veal, or Veniſon, or any kind of Pullen, or for want therof, other clean ſcalding water: after your chippings or bread is ſcalded you ſhall let it ſtand and coole, then when your feeding hour commeth, you ſhall take as much good milk, flotten milk, or butter milk (but the beſt is moſt wholeſome) as will fully or more then whiten the ſame, for it is to be intended that your water muſt be all drunke up into your bread, and your milke muſt onely make it ſwim, and with this feed your dogge morning and evening after you come from walking him, and give him a good and ſufficient meale thereof, for this will onely maintain and uphold him in good ſtate of body being ſtrong and luſty in fleſh before.

Of particular food.

For particular food, which is when a dogge is poore, ſick, or to be prepared for wager, they be theſe: Firſt if he be poor in fleſh, ſickly or weak, the beſt food you can raiſe him up withall is to take ſheepes heads, wool & all, clean waſht, and break them all to peeces, then put them in a Cauldron or Kettle, and after the water hath riſen and is clean skum'd, put unto it good ſtore of Oatmeal & ſweet pot-hearbs ſmall chopt together, & ſo boil it til the fleſh be tender; then with this meat & the pottage feed your Greyhound morning & evening, & it wil ſoon put him into great luſt and ſtrength: but if you wil prepare him for match and wager, then you ſhall make him this diet-bread: take a peck of the fineſt and drieſt Oat-meal, and two pecks of good wheat, and having ground them together, boult the meal thorough a fine boulting cloath, and then ſcattering amongſt it a pretty quantity of Any-ſeeds and Licoras well beaten together, knead it up with the whites of egs, new Ale and barm mixt together, and ſo bake it in pretty round loaves reaſonable hard, with this bread either ſcalded, as was before ſhewed in your chippings, or put into the pottage with Sheeps heads warm, feed your dog morning and evening, to wit, half an houre after Sunne riſe, and

Food for a match.

Hours of feeding.

and halfe an hour before Sun ſet when you come from walking or ayring him, and it will bring him to exceeding great ſtrength of body, and pureneſs of wind.

For the exerciſe of your grey-hound, it conſiſteth likewiſe in two things, courſing and ayring; and they be every way as neceſſary as is food, becauſe it onely bringeth ability to his limbes and perfitneſs to his wind: to ſpeak then of courſing, you ſhall not faile to courſe him at leaſt twice a weak, if your courſes be ſtrong and long: but thrice a week, if they be but reaſonable, as a mile, or a mile and a half at moſt, and ſometimes if your courſes be ſhort under a mile. In courſing you ſhall obſerve two things, blood and labour; blood; which is a hartning and animating of your dogge to delight in the pleaſure, when he finds the reward of his paines taking; for if a dog courſe continually and never kill the the ſport hare, will grow irkſome unto him, and therefore now and then give him ſuch advantage that he may kill the hare: then labour, which is contrary to killing; for in it you muſt give the Hare all indifferent advantage, both by Law and otherwiſe, whereby ſhe may ſtand long before the dog, and make him ſhew his uttermoſt ſtrength before he be able to reach her: Of exerciſe by courſing

After your dog hath courſed, if he kill, you ſhall by no means ſuffer him to break the hare; but having taken her from him, firſt cleanſe his mouth and chaps from the wool of the Hare, and then give him to eate the Liver, Lights, and Heart, & ſo take him up in your leaſe, lead him home, and there firſt waſh his feet in a little butter and bear, and ſo put him up in the kennell, and half an hour after feed him, for upon his courſing dayes you muſt by no meanes give him any meat more then a white bread toaſt and butter, or a toaſt and Oyle, which muſt be given before his morning ayring, and ſo kennelled til he go to his courſe. Ordering dogs Of ayring.

Touching ayring or walking of Grey-hounds, which is a great nouriſher and encreaſer of winde, it muſt duly be done every morning before Sun-riſe, and every evening before or after Sun ſet in this manner: as ſoone as you have opened your kennel and rub'd your dogge over with a clean haire cloath, you ſhall let him play a little about you before the kennell dore, then after courſing.

take him up into your leash and walk him forth into the field, where for the most part are no sheep or other small Cattell, which they may out of wantonness indanger and there let him loose and give him leave to play and scope about you, so that he may skummer, piss and empty his body; which when he hath done sufficiently, you shall then take him up in the leash againe, and so walk him home and kennell him, this you shall doe after the same manner in the evening; and also if your dogge be strong and lusty at night after supper, and then bringing him home bring him to the fire, and there let them stretch and beak themselves, & with your hand grope and cleanse them from ticks and other filth, which done lead them to the Kennel, and shut them up for all night.

Of Kennelling the Greyhound.

Now for the kennelling of Greyhounds, it it a right necessary action, and must be performed with all diligence, for it breeds in Dog, lust, spirit and nimbleness, prevents divers mischances, and keeps the powers from spending til time of necessity: and therefore you shall by no means suffer your dog to be out of the Kennel, but in the houres of feeding, walking, coursing, or when you have other necessary businesses to doe about him.

CHAP. 7.

The Lawes of the Leash or Coursing, as they were commanded, allowed, and subscribed by Thomas *late Duke of Norfolk, in the Raigne of Queene* Elizabeth.

Now lastly touching the Lawes of the Leash, or coursing, though they be uncertainly received, and alter with mens various opinions, yet these under-written were held for authentical once, and invented, received and subscribed unto by many noble and worthy Personages, suting fully with the Reasons and grounds of the pastime.

First therefore it was ordered that he which was chosen Fewterer, or letter loose of the Greyhounds, should receive the Greyhounds matcht to run together into his Leash, as soone as he came into the field, and to follow next to the hare-finder til he came unto the forme: and no horseman nor Footman

on,

on paine or disgrace to goe before them, or on either side, but directly behind, the space of forty yards or thereabouts.

Item, That not above one brace of Greyhounds do course a hare at one instant.

Item, That the hare-finder should give the hare three sollows before he put her from her Leat, to make the Grey hounds gaze and attend her rising.

Item, that the Fewterer shall give the hare twelve score Law, ere he loose the greyhounds, except it be in danger of losing sight.

Item, That dog which giveth the first turne, if after the turne be given, there be neither coat, slip, nor wrench extraordinary, then he which gave the first turne shall be held to win the wager.

Item, If one Dog give the first turne and the other beare the hare, then he which boar the hare shall win.

Item, If one dog give both the first turn and last turne, and no other advantage between them, that od turne shall win the wager.

Item, that a coat shall be more then two turnes, and a go-by, or the bearing of the hare equall with two turnes.

Item, if neither Dog turn the hare, then he which leadeth last, at the covert, shall be held to winne the wager.

Item, if one Dog turne the hare, serve himself, and turne her againe, those two turnes shall be as much as a coate.

Item, if all the course be equall, then he only which beares the Hare shall win, and if she be not born, then the course must be adjudged dead.

Item, if hee which comes first into the death of the hare, takes her up and saves her from breaking, cherisheth the Dogs, and cleanseth their mouthes from the wool, or other filth of the Hare, for such courtesie done, he shall in courtesie challenge the hare; but not doing it, he shall have no right, priviledge or title therein.

Item, If any Dog shal take a fall in the course, and yet perform his part, he shall challenge advantage of a turne more then he giveth.

Item,

v *Item*, if one Dog turne the Hare, ſerve himſelf, and give diers coats, yet in the end ſtand ſtill in the field, the other dog without turne giving, running home to the covert, that Dog which ſtood ſtill in the field ſhall be then adjudged to loſe the wager.

If any man ſhall Ride over a Dogge and overthrow him in his courſe (though the Dogge were the worſe Dogge in opinion) yet the party for the offence ſhall either receive the diſgrace of the field, or pay the wager; for between the parties, it ſhall be adjudged no courſe.

Item, thoſe which are choſen Judges of the Leaſh, ſhall give their judgements preſently before they depart from the field, or elſe he in whoſe default it lyeth, ſhall pay the Wager by a general voyce and ſentence.

And thus much for the Lawes of Courſing, and thoſe particularities which do depend thereupon: All which, I ſubmit unto the Correction and amendment of thoſe Worthy and well knowing Gentlemen, who having the Office of the Leaſh confer'd upon them, have both Authority and Power to make Lawes therein, according unto the Cuſtomes of Countries, and the Rule of reaſon.

The end of Hunting.

Of

Of Particular Recreations.

CHAP. 8.

Of divers other particular Recreations.

THere be many other particular Recreations neceſſary for the knowledge and practiſe of our husbandman, as firſt, ſhooting in the Long bow, which is both healthfull for the Body, and neceſſary for the Common-wealth: the firſt extending the Limbs, and making them pliant: the other, an able ſtrength fit to preſerve and defend his Country. And firſt for ſhooting in the Long-bow, a man muſt obſerve theſe few Rules, firſt that he have a good eye to behold and diſcern his mark, a knowing judgement to underſtand the diſtance of ground, to take the true advantage of a ſide-wind, and to know in what compaſs his arrow muſt fly, and a quick dexterity to give his ſhaft a ſtrong, ſharp, and ſuddain looſe; he muſt in the action it ſelf ſtand faire, comely, and upright with his body, his Left foot a convenient ſtride before his right, both his hammes ſtiffe, his left arme holding his Bow in the midſt ſtretcht ſtreight-out, and his right arm with his three firſt fingers and his thumb drawing the ſtring to his right eare, the nock of his arrow reſting between his fore-finger, and long finger of his right hand,

Of ſhooting the Long-bow.

and the ſteale of his arrow below the feathers upon the middle knuckle of his fore-finger on his left hand, hee ſhall draw his arrow up cloſe unto the head and deliver it on the inſtant without hanging on the ſtring: the beſt Bow is either Spaniſh or Engliſh Yew, and the worſt of Witchen or Elme; the beſt ſhaft is of Burch, Sugar-cheſt, or Brazell, and the beſt feather gray or white.

The Marks to ſhoot at are three, Buts, Pricks, or Rovers: the But is a level Mark, and therefore would have a ſtrong Arrow with a very broad Feather: the Prick is a marke of ſome compaſs, yet moſt certain in the Diſtance, therefore would have nimble ſtrong Arrows with a middle Feather, all of one weight and flying; and the Roaver is a mark incertaine, ſometimes long, ſometimes ſhort, and therfore muſt have arrows lighter or heavier according unto the diſtance of place.

Of ſhooting in Crosbowes. If infirmity in the armes, or back, take from a man the uſe of the Long-bow, he may then with a Croſsbow made for gafel carried upon a ſtring, and the neather end placed in a reſt, with arrowes made ſtrong, heavy, and ſutable to the ſtrength of the Bow, ſhoot at all the former Marks, and reap the ſame pleaſure he formerly did with his Long-bow.

Of Bowling. There is another Recreation, which howſoever unlawfull in the abuſe thereof, yet exerciſed with moderation, is even of Phyſitians themſelves held exceeding wholeſome, and hath been preſcribed for a recreation to great Perſons, and that is Bowling, in which a man ſhall find great Art in chooſing out his ground, & preventing the Winding, Hanging, and many turning advantages of the ſame, whether it be in open Wide places, or in cloſe allies: and in this ſport the chooſing of the bowle is the greateſt cunning; your flat bowles being the beſt for cloſe allies, your round byaſſed bowles for open Grounds of advantage, and your round bowles like a ball, for green ſwarths that are plain and level.

Not inferiour to theſe ſports, either for health or action, are the Teniſe, or Balloone, the firſt being a paſtime in cloſe or open Courts, ſtriking a little round ball to or fro, either with the palme of the hand, or with Racket: The other a ſtrong and moving ſport in the open fields, with a great ball of double Leather

fil'd

fil'd with wind, and so driven to and fro with the strength of a mans Arm, arm'd in a bracer of Wood, either of which actions must be learnt by the Eye and practise, not by the Ear or Reading.

Of Angling, &c.

CHAP. 9.

The whole Art of Angling; as it was written in a small Treatise in Rimo, and now for the better understanding of the Reader put into Prose, and adorned and inlarged. And first of Angling, the vertue, use, and Antiquity.

SInce Pleasure is a Rapture, or power in this last Age, stoln into the hearts of men, and there lodged up with such a careful guard & attendance, that nothing is more Supream, or ruleth with greater strength in their affections, and since all are now become the sons of Pleasure, and every good is measured by the delight it produceth: what work unto men can be more thankfull then the discourse of that pleasure which is most comely, most honest, and giveth the most liberty to divine Meditation? and that without all question is the Art of Angling, which having ever been most hurtlessely necessary, hath been the sport, or Recreation of Gods Saints, of most holy Fathers, and of many worthy and Reverend Divines, both dead, and at this time breathing.

For the use thereof (in its own true and unabused nature) The use of Angling car-

rieth in it neither covetouſneſs, deceit, nor anger, the three main ſpirits which ever (in ſome il meaſure) rule in all other paſtimes; neither are aolne predominant without the attendance of their ſeverall handmaid-, as Theft, Blaſphemy or Bloodſhed: for in Dice-play, Cards, Bowles, or any other ſport where mony is the goale to which mens minds are directed, what can mans avarice there be accounted other then a familiar Robbery, each ſeeking by deceit to couzen and ſpoile other of that bliſs of meanes which God had beſtowed to ſupport them and their families. And as in every contention there muſt be a betterhood or ſuperexcelling, ſo in this, when the weaker deceipt is deprived his expectation, how doth it then fall into curſes, oathes, and furies, ſuch as would make Vertue tremble with the imagination.

But in this Art of Angling there is no ſuch evil, no ſuch ſinful violence, for the greateſt thing it coveteth, is for much labour a little Fiſh, hardly ſo much as will ſuffice Nature in a reaſonable ſtomack: for the Angler muſt intice, not command his reward, and that which is worthy millions to his contentment, another may buy for a groat in the market. His deceipt worketh not upon men, but upon thoſe creatures whom it is lawfull to beguile for our honeſt recreations or needfull uſe; and for all rage and fury it muſt be ſo great a ſtranger to this civil paſtime, that if it come but within view or ſpeculation thereof, it is no more to be eſteemed a Pleaſure. For every proper good thereof in the very inſtant faileth, ſhewing unto all men that wil undergoe any delight therein, that it was firſt invented, taught, and ſhall for ever bee mantained by Patience onely. And yet I may not ſay onely Patience; for her other three Siſters have likewiſe a commanding in this exerciſe, for Juſtice directeth and appointeth out thoſe places where men may with liberty uſe their ſport, and neither do injury to their neighbours, nor incurre the cenſure of incivility. Temperance layeth downe the meaſure of the action, and moderateth deſire in ſuch good proportion, that no Exceſs is found in the overflow of their affections. Laſtly, Fortitude inableth the mind to undergoe the travail, and exchange of Weathers with a healthfull eaſe, and not to deſpair with a little expence of time, but to perſevere with a conſtant imagi-

nation

nation in the end to obtain both pleaſure and ſatisfaction.

Now for the Antiquity thereof (for all pleaſures, like Gentry, are held to be moſt excellent, which is moſt ancient) it is by ſome Writers ſaid to be found out by *Deucalion*, and *Pyrrha* his Wife, after the generall flood: others write, it was the invention of *Saturne*, after the peace concluded betwixt him and his brother *Titan*: and others, that it came from *Belus* the ſonne of *Nimrod*, who firſt invented all holy and vertuous Recreations: and all theſe though they ſavour of fiction, yet they differ not from truth, for it is moſt certain that both *Deucalion*, *Saturne*, and *Belus*, are taken for figures of *Noah*, and his Family, and the invention of the Art of Angling, is truly ſaid to come from the Sonnes of *Seth*, of which *Noah* was moſt Principal. Thus you ſee it is good, as having no coherence with evill, worthy of uſe, in as much as it is mixt with a delightfull profit: and moſt ancient, as being the Recreation of the firſt Patriarkes; wherefore now I will proceed to the Art it ſelfe, and the means to attain it. The Antiquity of Angling.

CHAP. 10.

Of the Angle-rod, Lines, Corkes, Hookes, and other Tooles for Angling.

IN as much as the firſt ground-Worke or Subſtance of this Art of Angling conſiſteth in the implements belonging and appertaining thereunto, and that except a man bee poſſeſt of them which are moſt exact, nimble, or neceſſary for the ſame, his labour is vain, and to little or no purpoſe imployed, and for as much as the Angle-rod is the greateſt, principalleſt, and ſole director of all other Tooles belonging thereunto, I think it not amiſſe to begin with the choyce and order thereof, according to the opinions of the beſt noted Anglers, which either have been in times paſt, or are at this day living.

For the choyce then of your Angle-Rod you ſhall underſtand that ſome Anglers are of opinion, that the beſt ſhould be compoſed of two peeces, a main body, and a ſmall pliant top. The main body would bee of a fine grown ground witchen, or a ground Elme, of at leaſt nine or ten foot in length, ſtraight, ſmooth, without knots, and not much differing

fering, at either end in one ſubſtance or thickneſſe. It would be gathered at the fall of the Leaf, near, or about *All-hallon tide*, and laid up in ſome dry place, where it may lie ſtraight, and of it ſelfe ſeaſon: For to beak them in the fire (as many doe) when they are green, is not ſo good, but after they bee well dryed and ſeaſoned of themſelves, then to beak them in the fire, and ſet them ſo ſtraight and even that an arrow cannot ſurpaſſe them, is excellent; then you may take off the upper rinde, and what with the ſmoake, and their own age, their colour will be ſo dark, that they will give no reflect into the Water, (which is a principal obſervation.) Your Rod being made thus ſtraight and ſeaſoned, you ſhall at the upper end thereof, with an augur, or a hot Iron, but a hot Iron is the better; burn a hole about three inches deep, and of a fingers wideneſſe: then on the out ſide of the Rod, from the top of the hole unto the bottome, you ſhall wrap it about either with ſtrong double twiſted thread well Waxed or pitcht, or with Shoo-makers thread many times doubled, and well waxed with Shoo-makers Wax, and the laſt end faſtened under the laſt foulds, ſo cloſe and ſo ſure, that it may by no means looſe; for this will keep the Rod from cleaving or breaking in that ſame place where the hollowneſſe was made.

Of the Top of the Angle rod.

The ſtock being thus made, you ſhall into the hole fix the Top, which would be a very ſmall ground Hazel, growing from the Earth upward, very ſmooth and ſtraight, which would be cut at the latter end of the year, and lie in ſeaſon all the Winter, the upper Rinde being by no means taken off, neither the Rod put into the fire at all, but onely ſeaſoned in a good dry place, where it may lie ſtreight, and have both the Winde and ſome Ayre of the fire to come unto it. This Top muſt be plyant and bending, yet of ſuch a ſufficient ſtrength that it will not break with any reaſonable jerk, but as it is any way bowed, ſo to returne again to the former ſtraightneſſe. This top wand would be of a yard and a half, or an Ell at leaſt in length, and at the ſmalleſt end thereof would be faſtned with a warp of hair, a ſtrong loop of hair, about an inch long, to which you may at pleaſure faſten your fiſhing

fiſhing line: and the bigger end of the toppe muſt be thruſt into the ſocket of the ſtock, and made ſo faſt that it may not looſen nor ſhake out with any ſhaking, or other reaſonable violence. And all be the Witchen or ground-elme are accounted the beſt to frame theſe main ſtockes of, yet I have ſeen very good ſtockes made both of Sallow, Beech, or Poplar: for the lighter your Rod is (ſo it be ſtrong) it is ſo much the better, and more for the eaſe of him that uſeth it.

The Bngle rod of one peece.

There be other approved good Anglers which allow onely that Rodde which is compoſed all of one entire piece, and think them ſtronger, nimbler, and leſſe caſuall, and theſe Rods they would have choſen of an excellent ſtraight and well grown ground Hazel, being from the bottome to the top finely ruſh grown, the upper end thereof being ſmall, pliant and bending. This Rod would be gathered at the fal of the leafe, when the leaves are ſome fallen and ſome ſticking: as ſoon as you have cut them up, you ſhall cut away the leaves and ſmall ſprigs, yet not ſo near that you hurt the Bark (for that by no means muſt be ſtird, as well for the ſtrength of the Rod, as for the colour, which being darke will not ſo ſoon catch the eye of the Fiſh, and offend them) Then bringing your Rods home, you ſhall lay them upon a level floore, and preſſing them down with good weights, to keep them from warping, let them lie and ſeaſon all the Winter: Then in the Spring-time take them up, for your purpoſe, which is only to make the knots ſmooth, and to fix your loop of haire unto the upper end. Now of theſe Rods, the longeſt is the beſt, ſo it be ſtraight and well grown; for moſt commonly they are ſo ſhort that they will ſerve to fiſh with but in litttle narrow Brookes, or elſe in a Boat, in great Waters.

The Anglers rod of many peeces.

There be other Anglers, and many of the beſt and approvedſt judgements, which allow the Angle rod of many pieces: as thoſe which are made of Cane, each peice exceeding another one degree, in ſuch even proportion that being fixed and thruſt one within another, they will ſhew as one even and moſt ſtraight ruſh-grown body, without any crookedneſſe or other outward evil favouredneſſe. Theſe peices would not be a-

bove

bove four foot in length a piece, and three ſuch peices, which make twelve foot, are ſufficient for the ſtock of the Rodde, beſides the top. Now for thoſe ends which are the ſockets, into which you fix the other Canes, you ſhall hoop them about with fine plates of Braſſe, an inch and an halfe broad, well ſodered, and ſmoothly filed, which will keep the Cane from cleaving: and for the toppe of this Rod, the round Whalebone is thought the beſt, and ſurely in my conceit ſo it is, both for this or any other rodde whatſoever, for it is tough, ſtrong, and moſt plyant. Theſe Rods moſt commonly are made to have the ſmall Canes thruſt down into the wide Canes, ſo that a man may walke with them as with a ſtaffe, and when he pleaſeth draw them forth, and uſe them as occaſion ſhall be offered. The onely exception which is taken at theſe kind of Roddes, is the bright colour of the Cane, which reflecting into the water, oft times ſcareth the Fiſh, and maketh them afraid to bite: But if you fiſh in deep and thick waters, there is no ſuch matter, for the ſhadow of the Rodde is not diſcerned through the Sunne, only in ſhallow and clear Brookes it is a little hindrance, and therefore he which is a Maſter in this Art will Umber and darken the Rodde, by rubbing it over a gentle fire with a little Capons greaſe, and brown of Spain, mixt together.

Of the Lines. Now for your Lines, you ſhall underſtand that they are to be made of the ſtrongeſt, longeſt, and beſt grown Horſe haire that can be got, not that which groweth on his Main, nor upon the upper part or ſetting on of his tayle, but that which groweth from the middle and in moſt part of his dock, and ſo extendeth it ſelfe down to the ground, being the biggeſt and ſtrongeſt haires about the Horſe: neither are theſe haires to be gathered from poor, lean and diſeaſed Jades of little price or value, but from the fatteſt, ſoundeſt, and proudeſt Horſe you can find, for the beſt Horſe hath ever the beſt haire; neither would your haires be gathered from Nagges, Mares, or Geldings, but from ſton'd-Horſes onely, of which the black haire is the worſt, the white or gray beſt, and other colours indifferent. Thoſe lines which you make for ſmall Fiſh, as Gudgeon, Witling, or Menow, would be compoſed of three haires; thoſe

thoſe which you make for Pearch, or Trout, would be of five haires; and thoſe for the Chub or Barbel, would be of ſeaven: to thoſe of three haires you ſhal ad one thred of ſilk to thoſe of five two threds of ſilk;& to thoſe of ſeaven three threeds of ſilk. You ſhall twiſt your haires neither too hard nor too ſlack, but even ſo as they may twind and couch cloſe one within another,and no-more, without either ſnarling or gaping one from another: the end, you ſhall faſten together with a Fiſhers knot, which is your ordinary faſt knot, foulded four times about both under and above, for this will not looſe in the water,but being drawn cloſe together will continue when all other knots will faile, for a hair being ſmooth and ſtiffe, will yeeld and goe back if it bee not artificially drawne together. Your ordinary Line would be betweene three and four fadome in length, yet for as much as there are diverſities in the length of Rods, in the depth of waters,and in the places of ſtanding to Angle in,it ſhal be good to have Lines of divers lengths,and to take thoſe which ſhall be fitteſt for your purpoſe.

The colouring of Lines.

Theſe Lines, though the natural haires, being white or grey, be not much offenſive, yet it ſhall not be amiſs to colour them according to the ſeaſons of the year,for ſo they will leaſt ſcare the Fiſh,and ſooneſt intice them to bite with moſt greedineſs:& of colours the beſt is the Water-green,which you ſhal make after this manner. Take a pottle of Allome water,and put thereunto a great handful of Marigolds,and let them boil wel till a yellow skum riſe upon the water, then take half a pound of green Copperas,& as much Verdigreaſe, beaten to fine powder,& put it with the haire into the water,and ſo let it boyl again a pretty ſpace, & then ſet it by to cool for half a day: then take out your hayr, & lay it where it may dry,& you ſhall ſee it of a delicate green colour,which indeed is the beſt Water-green that may be.

This colour is excellent to Angle within all clear waters where the Line lyes plain and moſt diſcovered,and will continue from the beginning of the Spring to the beginning of Winter. Now if you wil have your Lines of a yellow colour, you ſhall boyle your hair in Allome water, mixt onely with Marigolds, and a handfull of Turmerick:but if you cannot get Turmerick, then you ſhall ſtamp ſo much of green Walnut-tree leaves and mix

it with the water, and ſteep your hair therein twenty and four houres at leaſt.

Lines of this colour are good to Angle with in waters that are clear, yet full of weeds, ſedge, and ſuch like, for it is not unlike to the ſtalks of theſe weeds, and it will well continue to Angle withall the firſt part of the winter, as from before Michaelmas till after Chriſtmas.

If you will have your Lines of a Ruſſet colour, you ſhall take a part of allome water, and as much ſtrong Lye, then put thereto a hand full of ſoot, and as much browne of Spaine, and after it hath boiled an hour or two, ſet it by to coole, and when it is cold ſteep your hair therein a day and a night, and then hang it up to dry: theſe coloured Lines are good to Angle with in all deep waters, whether they be Rivers or ſtanding Pools, as Ponds, and ſuch like, and are moſt in uſe from Chriſtmas till after Eaſter.

Now if you will haue your Lines of a brown or Duskiſh colour, you ſhall take a pound of Umber and half ſo much Soot & ſeeth it in a pottle of Ale a good ſpace, then when it is cold ſteep your haires therein a day and a night, and then hang them up to dry, and the colour will be perfect, yet ever the darker you would have it, the more Umber put unto it: theſe Lines are excellent to angle with in waters that are black deep and muddy, be they either running or ſtanding waters, and will continue all ſeaſons of the year whatſoever, onely in bright waters they are too black, & caſt too large a ſhadow. Laſtly, if you would have your Lines of a tawny colour, (although in the water it ſheweth almoſt all one with the other darker colours) you ſhal take Lime & water, mix it together, and ſteep your hair therein half a day, and then take it forth and ſteep it double ſo long time in Tanners ouze, and then hang it up to dry, & the colour wil be perfect: theſe Lines are beſt to angle with in mooriſh and heathy waters, which are of a reddiſh colour, and wil ſerve for that purpoſe all ſeaſons of the year: if with this colour or the green, you mixe a ſilver thread it will not be a miſs; and with the other colours a gold threed it is good alſo: and note, that at each end of your Line you make a loop, the one to faſten to the top of your

Rod

Rod, being the larger, and the other to faſten your hook-Line unto, which would be ſomewhat leſſer.

After your Lines be made, you ſhall make your Corks in this manner: take of the beſt and thickeſt cork you can get, and with a fine Razor having pared it ſmooth on the outſide, cut it into the faſhion of a long Katherine Pear, big and round at the one end, and long and ſlender at the other, and according to the ſtrength of your Line, ſo make your work bigger or leſſer, as for a Line of three hayres, a cork of an inch and half in length, and as much in compaſs in the thickeſt part is bigge enough: and for a Line of more haires, a Cork of more length and compaſs will become it: and indeed to ſpeak truly, for aſmuch as it ſerveth but onely for a direction to your eye to know when the fiſh biteth, and when you ſhall ſtrike, the leſſer your Cork is, the better it is, and breedeth leſs affright in the water, inſomuch that many Anglers will fiſh without any Cork, with a bare quill onely, but that it is not ſo certain, nor giveth ſo ſure direction as the Cork doth. After you have ſhaped your Cork, you ſhall with a hot iron bear a hole long-wiſe, through the midſt thereof, and into that hole, thruſt a quill, and through the quill draw your Line, and faſten them both together with a wedge of the hard end of the goos feather: and note that both your quill and your wedge bee white, for that breedeth leaſt offence on the water; then place the ſmaller end of your cork down towards your hook, and the bigger end towards your rod, that the ſmaller end, ſinking downe with the Hook, the bigger may float aloft and bear the quill upward, which when at any time you ſee or perceive puld downe into the water, then you may ſafely ſtrike, for without doubt it is an aſſured ſign that the fiſh hath bitten at the bait. *Of the Cork.*

There be other Anglers which make their corks in the faſhion of a Nunne gigge, ſmall at both ends and big in the midſt, and it is not much to be diſliked, onely it is a little ſooner apt to ſink, and you may thereby ſtrike before the fiſh have fully bitten. Others ſhape their Corks in the faſhion of a whirle, or of a little Apple, round, flattiſh of both ſides, and this cork is beſt to Angle for the greateſt Fiſhes, becauſe it being not ſo apt to

ſink, will floate till the Hook be faſtned, and that the Fiſh begin-neth to ſhut away with the bait, ſo that a man then ſtriking can ſeldome or never looſe his labour.

Of angling hooks.

Next to your Corks is your Hooks, and they be of divers ſhapes and faſhions, ſome bigge, ſome litle, ſome between both, acording to the Fiſh at which you angle, the beſt ſubſtance whereof to make them, is either old Spaniſh needles, or elſe ſtrong Wyer drawn as neer as may be to that hight of temper, which being nealed and alaid in the fire, you may bend and bow at your pleaſure. Now for the beſt ſoftning of your Wyer, if you make your Hooks of old Needles, you ſhall need but to hold them in the blaze of a Candle till they bee red hot, and then let them cool of themſelves, and they will be ſoft, and plyant enough; but if you make your Hooks of ſtrong Spaniſh Wyer, you ſhall roul it round, and lay it upon burning Char-coales, turning it up and downe till it be all red hot in every place, then let it gently cool of it ſelf, and it will be ſoft enough. Now for the making of your hooks, I adviſe you to goe to ſuch as are beſt reputed for making of them, and buy of all ſorts from the biggeſt to the leaſt, that is to ſay, from that which taketh the Loach to that which taketh the Salmon, and let them lye before you for examples: then look of what ſort of hooks you intend to make, and with a fine File, firſt make the point of you hook which would neither be too ſharp, for then it will catch hold of every thing, when it ſhould not, nor too blunt, leaſt it faile to take hold when there is occaſion: therefore in that obſerve a meane, making it leſs then a fine needle, and more ſharp then a ſmall Pinne. When you have made the point, then with a thin Kniſe of a very good edge, you ſhall cut out and raiſe up the beard, which you ſhall make greater or leſs, according to the bigneſs of the hook, and the ſtrength of the wyer: for you muſt by no means cut the beard ſo deep, that thereby you weaken the Hook, but it muſt be as ſtrong in that place as any other. When the point and beard is made, you ſhall with a fine pair of round Plyers turne and compaſs the hook about, making it round, circular-wiſe, being

being ſomewhat more then a ſemicircle, and ever obſerve that the rounder the compaſs or bought commeth in, that ſo much the better proportioned the hook is. This done, you ſhall leave as much as you think convenient for the ſhank, and then cut it off from the reſt of the Wyer: which done, you ſhall beat the end down flat, and ſomewhat broader then the reſt, and ſo polliſh and ſmooth it all over, then heating it red hot in a little Pan of Charcoales, put it ſuddainly into the Water, and quench it, which will bring your Hook to a full ſtrength and hardneſs. Thus you ſee how to make hooks of all ſizes and ſhapes, whether they be ſingle or double Hooks, for although the quantities alter, yet the ſhapes doe not; and the double hook, which is the Pike-hook, is no other, but two ſingle Hooks all of one Wyer turned contrary wayes: and this double hook muſt not have the Line fixt unto it, but a ſtrong Wyer joyned unto it of three inches long, wel wound and warped with a ſmaller Wyer: then to it an other Wyer of the ſame length as if they were two ſeverall links joyned together, and then the Line fixed to the laſt Link, and therfore are called armed hookes, for they defend the line from ſhearing or cutting in peeces with the teeth of the Pike.

Now for your ſingle hooks, you ſhall thus fix them unto your Lines, take a length of your twiſted Hayres, containing that number which is fit for the Hook, and having made a ſtrong loope at the one end, lay the other end where is no bought upon the inſide of your hooke; then with a ſtrong red ſilk, either ſingle or double, according to the bigneſs of the hook, being well waxed, whippe and wrap the hook round about, as thick, cloſe, and ſtrait as may be, in ſuch ſort as you ſee men whippe their Bow-ſtrings, and in the ſame manner make the ends of your ſilk faſt; then with a paire of ſizers cut the ſilk and haires off cloſe by the hooke, and you may bee ſure that they will not looſe one from another, with reaſonable violence.

After your hook is thus faſtned to your Line, you ſhall then plumbe your Line, which is to fix certain peeces of Lead, according to the bigneſs of your Line about it, ſome being in length a quarter of an inch, ſome bigger, and ſome leſſe, according unto

the weight of your hook, and bigneſs of your Cork, for theſe plummets are but onely to carry downe your hook, and lay it in the bottom, neither being ſo heavy to make the Cork ſink, nor ſo light as not with the ſmalleſt touch to make the Cork dip into the water; you ſhall then underſtand that your firſt plummet would be twelve or fourteen inches from the hook, the reſt not above one inch diſtance one from another, not being above five or ſeven at moſt, albe ſome Anglers uſe nine, and ſome more, as their fancies rule them. There is in plumbing of Lines three ſeverall fathions of plummets uſed, as one long, another ſquare, and the third in a Diamond forme, but all tending to one end, have but one uſe, and the long ones are accounted the beſt, ſo that they bee neatly ſet to, and the ends very ſmooth and cloſe laid downe, ſo that they tangle not the Line by catching hold upon Weeds, or other traſh in the bottome of the water.

Of other implements for Anglers

Thus have you ſeene the beſt choiſe of Rods, Lines, Corks, and Hooks, and how to fix and couple them altogether to do their ſeveral Offices; it now reſteth that we ſpeak of other neceſſary implements, which ſhould accompany the painful and induſtrious Angler, & they be theſe: Hee ſhall beſides theſe before ſpoken of, have a large Muſket bullet, through which having fixed a double twiſted threed, & therof made a ſtrong loop, he may at his pleaſure hang it upon his hook, and therewith ſound the depth of every water, and ſo know how to plumbe his lines, and place his cork in their due places: then he ſhall have a large ring of lead, ſix inches at leaſt in compaſſe, and made faſt to a ſmall long line, through which thruſting your Angle rod, and letting it fall into the Water by your haire Line, it will help to unlooſe your hooke if it be faſtned either upon weeds or other ſtones in the water.

Then he ſhall have a fine ſmooth board of ſome curious wood for ſhew ſake, being as big as a Trencher, and cut battlement-wiſe at each end, on which he ſhall fold his ſeverall Lines. His hooks he ſhall have in a dry cloſe box; he ſhall have a little bag of red cloath, to carry his Wormes in, and mixe with them a little freſh mould and Fennell; then he ſhall either have a cloſe ſtopt horne, in which he ſhall keep Maggots, Bobbes, Palmers

mers, and ſuch like, or a hollow Cane, in which he may put them, and Scarrabs: He ſhall have a cloſe box for all ſorts of live Flies, and another for Needles, Silke, Thread, Wax, and looſe haires; then a roul of pitch Thread to mend the Angle-rod withall, if it chance to break, a File, a Knife, a Pouch with many purſes, in which you may place all your implements whatſoever ſeverally.

Laſtly, he ſhall have a little fine wanded Pebbe to hang by his ſide, in which he ſhall put the Fiſh he catcheth, and a ſmal round Net faſtned unto a poales end, wherewith he may land a Pike, or any other great Fiſh of that kinde whatſoever. To have alſo a little Boat or Cot, if you Angle in great waters, to carry you up and down, to the moſt convenienteſt places for your paſtime, is alſo right neceſſary, and fit for an Angler; and thus I have ſhewed you the ſubſtance of the Anglers inſtruments.

CHAP. 2,
Of the Anglers Apparrel, and inward Qualities.

TOuching the Anglers apparrel (for it is a reſpect as neceſſary as any other whatſoever) it would by no means be gariſh, light coloured, or ſhining, for what ſoever with a glittering hew reflecteth upon the water, immediately it frighteth the fiſh, and maketh them flie from his preſence; no hunger being able to tempt them to bite, when their eye is offended: and of all creatures there is none more ſharp ſighted then Fiſhes are.

Let then your apparell be plain and comely, of a dark colour, as Ruſſet, Tawny, or ſuch like, cloſe to your body, without any new faſhioned ſlaſhes, or hanging ſleeves, waving looſe, like ſails about you, for they are like Blinks which will ever chaſe your Game from you: let it, for your own health and eaſe ſake, be warme and well lined, that neither the coldneſſe of the Ayre, nor the moiſtneſſe of the water may offend you: keep your head and feet dry, for from the offence of them ſpringeth Agues, and worſe infirmities. *Anglers apparell.*

Now for the inward qualities of the minde, albe ſome *Anglers Writers* vertues.

Writers reduce them into twelve heads, which indeed whosoever enjoyeth cannot chuse but be very compleat in much perfection, yet I must draw them into many more Branches. The first, and most especiall whereof, is, that a skilfull Angler ought to be a general Scholler, and seen in all the Liberal Sciences, as a Grammarian, to know how either to Write or Discourse of his Art in true and fitting termes, either without affectation or rudenes. Hee should have sweetnesse of speech, to perswade and intice others to delight in an Exercise so much Laudable. He should have strength of arguments to defend and maintain his profession, against Envy or slaunder. Hee should have knowledge in the Sunne, Moone, and Starres, that by their Aspects he may guesse the seasonablenesse, or unseasonablenesse of the weather, the breeding of stormes, and from what coasts the Windes are ever delivered. Hee should be a good knower of Countries, and well used to high wayes, that by taking the readiest pathes to every Lake, Brook, or River, his journeys may be more certain and lesse wearisome. Hee should have knowledge in proportions of all sorts, whether Circular, Square, or Diametricall, that when he shall be questioned of his diurnal Progresses, he may give a Geographicall description of the Angles and Channels of Rivers, how they fall from their heads, and what compasses they fetch in their severall windings. He must also have the perfect Art of numbring, that in the sounding of Lakes or Rivers, he may know how many foot or inches each severally contayneth, and by adding, subtracting, or multiplying the same, he may yeeld the reason of every Rivers swift or slow Current. Hee should not be unskilfull in Musick, that whensoever either melancholly, heavinesse of his thought, or the perturbations of his own fancies stirreth up sadnesse in him, he may remove the same with some godly Hymne or Antheme, of which *David* gives him ample examples.

He must be of a well setled and constant beliefe, to enjoy the benefit of his Expectation, for then to Dispair, it were better never to be put in practise: And he must ever think wher the waters are pleasant and any thing likely, that there the Creator of all good things hath stored up much of his plenty: and

and though your ſatisfaction be not as ready as your wiſhes, yet you muſt hope ſtill, that with perſeverance you ſhall reap the fulneſs of your harveſt with contentment: Then hee muſt be full of love both to his pleaſure and to his neighbour; To his pleaſure, which otherwiſe would be irkſome and tedious, and to his neighbour, that he neither give offence in any particular, nor be guilty of any general deſtruction: Then he muſt be exceeding patient, and neither vexe nor excruciate himſelf with loſſes or miſchances, as in loſing the prey when it is almoſt in the hand, or by breaking his Tooles by ignorance or negligence, but with a pleaſed ſufferance amend errors, and think miſchances inſtructions to beter carefulnes.

He muſt then be full of humble thoughts, not diſdayning when occaſion commands to kneele, lye downe, or wet his feet or fingers, as oft as there is any advantage given thereby, unto the gaining the end of his labour. Then muſt he be ſtrong and valiant, neither to be amazed with ſtormes, not affrighted with Thunder, but to hold them according to their naturall cauſes, and the pleaſure of the higheſt: neither muſt he, like the Fox which preyeth upon Lambs, imploy all his Labour againſt the ſmaller Fry, but like the Lyon that ſeazeth Elephants, think the greateſt Fiſh which ſwimmeth, a reward little enough for the paines which he endureth. Then muſt he be liberal, and not working onely for his own belly, as if it could never be ſatisfyed; but he muſt with much cheerfulneſſe beſtow the fruits of his skill amongſt his honeſt neighbours, who being partners of his gaine, will doubly renown his tryumph, and that is ever a pleaſing reward to vertue.

Then muſt he be prudent, that apprehending the Reaſons why the Fiſh will not bite, and all other caſual impediments which hinder his ſport, and knowing the Remedies for the ſame, he may direct his Labours to be without troubleſomeneſs. Then he muſt have a moderate contentation of the mind, to be ſatisfied with indifferent things, and not out of an avaritious greedineſſe think every thing too little, be it never ſo abundant. Then muſt he be of a thankfull nature, praiſing the Author of all goodneſſe, and ſhewing a large grateſulneſſe for the leaſt ſatisfaction.

Then muſt he be of a perfect memory, quick and prompt to call into his mind all the needfull things which are any way in his exerciſe to be imployed, leſt by omiſſion or by forgetfulneſs of any, he fruſtrate his hopes, and make his labour effectleſs. Laſtly, he muſt be of a ſtrong conſtitution of body, able to endure much faſting, and not of a gnawing ſtomack, obſerving houres, in which if it be unſatisfied, it troubleth both the mind and body, and loſeth that delight which maketh the paſtime only pleaſing.

Cautions. Thus having ſhewed the inward Vertues and qualities which ſhould alwayes accompany a perfect Angler, it is very meet now to give unto you certaine Cautions, which being carefully obſerved, you ſhall with more eaſe obtain the fulneſs of your deſires. Firſt therefore, when you go to Angle, you ſhall obſerve that all your Tooles, Lines, or Implements be (as the Seaman ſaith) yare fit, and ready, for to have them raveld, ill made or in unreadineſs, they are great hindrances unto your pleaſure. Then look that your baites be good, ſweet, fine and agreeing with the Seaſon: for if they be otherwiſe unproper in any of their natures, they are uſeleſſe, and you had better been at home then by the River. Then you muſt not Angle in unſeaſonable times, for the Fiſh not being inclined to bite, it is a ſtrange intiſement that can compell them: Then you muſt be carefull neither by your apparell, motions, or too open ſtanding to give affright to the Fiſh, for when they are ſcared they fly from you; and you ſeek ſociety in an empty houſe. Then muſt you labour in clear and untroubled waters, for when the Brookes are any thing white, muddy and thick, either through inundations or other trouble, it is impoſſible to get any thing with the angle: Then to reſpect the temper of the weather, for extreme wind or extreme cold taketh away all manner from fiſh of appetite; So doth likewiſe too violent heat, or rain that is great, heavy, and beating, or any ſtormes, Snowes, Hailes, or blaſterings, eſpecially that which commeth from the Eaſt, which of all is the worſt. Thoſe which blow from the South are beſt, and thoſe which come from the North or weſt are indifferent: Many other obſervations there are, but they ſhall follow in their due places.

Chap.

CHAP. 12.

Of the beſt and worſt Seaſons to Angle in, and their uſes.

BEfore I direct you in the beſt Seaſons, and their contrary, for the general Art of Angling, I think it not amiſs, a little by the way, to give you a glance or ſpeculation how to order your Body and Art of each ſeveral water: for the manner of your ſtanding and concealing of your ſelf, is a material and chief point in this Art.

Know then, that if you Angle in any Pond or ſtanding water, you ſhall before you fall to your buſineſſe, with your Plumbe, ſound the water in divers places, and where you find it deepeſt, blackeſt, and leaſt tranſparent, there you ſhall ſtand to Angle, placing your ſelfe under the bank, and if it be poſſible, ſo as your ſhadow may be carried from the water: For you muſt at no time, if you can chuſe, let your ſhadow lye upon the water: and although in theſe deep places your ſtanding open or cloſe, are either of them reckoned indifferent, becauſe the waters depth is a ſufficient concealment, yet the cloſer you ſtand is accounted amongſt Anglers moſt handſome and artificiall. The Anglers manner of ſtanding.

But if you goe to Angle at the River, then the beſt place to caſt in your Line, is where it is deepeſt and cleareſt, ſo as you may behold the Sand or Gravell at the bottome: and in theſe places you ſhall ſtrive to conceal your ſelfe as much as poſſible, as ſtanding behind Poplars, Oziers, or other Trees, or under the covert of ſome Banke, Rock, or other ruines at the ſide of the River: alſo in covert places, where are many Weeds, roots of Trees, and other rubbiſh, is good Angling, but very troubleſome, for Fiſh lying there warme and in ſafety, will have a great reſort thereunto, and bite freely, ſo that the Angler muſt be carefull in the putting in of his hooke, and very deliberate in ſtriking, leaſt doing any thing raſhly, hee break his Line and Hooke, being never ſo little intangled.

It is good alſo to Angle in Whirle-pooles, for they being like pits within the Rivers, are ſeldome unfurniſhed of the greateſt Fiſhes; alſo, it is good to Angle at the falls of waters, as

under Bridges, ſtanding behind the Jawmes and Arches, or at the flood-gates of Mills, being hid with the higher Timbers. And generally where you ſee the Water is deepeſt, cleareſt, and calmeſt, being leaſt troubled with winde or weather, is the fitteſt place to angle in. Other obſervations there are, but they will follow in more neceſſary places.

The beſt ſeaſons to Angle in.

To returne then to our firſt purpoſe. You ſhall know the beſt ſeaſon to Angle in, is from Aprill till the end of October, ſpeaking of the general uſe of the pleaſures; and the beſt houres alſo in general account, are from foure in the morning till nine, and from three in the afternoone till after five in the Evening, the wind blowing from South, Weſt, or North, and the ayr temperate, inclined to warmeneſs: but to ſpeak of particular obſervations of ſeaſons, know that if the day be dark, cloſe and lowring, or have a gentle whiſtling wind playing upon the water, it is good to angle in, and the Fiſh will bite with pleaſure: nay, if a fine mizling dew of raine fall gently, without violence, they will then bite the faſter: alſo after flouds are gone away, and the Rivers are come within their own banks, their firſt cleerneſs recovered, and the water pure, then it is good to angle. And generally for your Summer angling chuſe the cooleſt time of the day, for in the heat of the day Fiſh betake themſelves to their reſt, and will neither bite nor play.

But for your Winter Angling, which is from October to April, you ſhall not make any difference of time, if the weather be calme, for all houres of the Sun are alike, onely the noontide or mid day is moſt preferred, eſpecially in Ponds and ſtanding waters. If the water where you Angle, ebbe or flow, the beſt time of Angling is held to be in the ebbe: yet in ſome places where the tide is not great, there the floud is preferred. Laſtly, whenſoever you ſee the Trout play or leap above the water, & the Pike ſhut in purſuit of other Fiſhes, it is then a very good time to Angle in, uſing ſuch baits as are then meet for the month and ſeaſon, as ſhall be ſhewed hereafter.

Seaſons ill to Angle in.

Now for thoſe ſeaſons which are nought to angle in, there is none worſe than in the violent heat of the day, or when the Winds are loudeſt, Raine heavieſt, Snow and hayl extremeſt: Thunder and lightning are offenſive, or any ſharp ayre which

flyeth

flyeth from the East: the places where men use to wash Sheep you shall forbear, for the very smell of the wool wil chase fish from their haunts. Land floods are enemies to anglers, so alsoat the fall of the leaf is the shedding of leaves into the water, & many other such like pollutions, of which we will speak something more hereafter.

Of Fishes. haunts.

Therefore, to conclude this Chapter, and to shew you as well how to find your fish, as the Art to take it being found, you shall know that the Carp, Eele & Tench do ever haunt muddy places: the first, which is the Carp, lyeth ever in the depth and bottome thereof; the Tench, among the weeds and roots of Sedges, and the Eele under stones, blockes, or the roots of Trees.

The Breame, the Chevin, and the Pike, haunt ever in the clear and sandy bottome: the Pike where you see great store of small fry; the Chevin where the stream runneth swiftest, and the shadd is greatest; and the Breame where the water is broadest, and the depth giveth greatest liberty; and generally these three sorts of fish delight more in standing waters then in running Rivers although the ancient Proverbe is.

Ancome Eele, and Witham Pike,
In all England is none like.

which are Rivers in Lincoln-shire. Now the Salmon hath his haunt in the swiftest and broadest rivers, whose Channels fall down into the Sea: The Trout loveth smaller brooks, whose current is swift, clear, and gravelly, and ever hath his lodging in the deepest holes that are therein; and the Perch haunteth rivers of the same nature, only he abideth most in creeks and hollownesses, which are about the bank; and indeed these three fishes generally, Salmon, Trout and Perch, love clear streames, being green with weeds, and the bottomes hard with gravel and pibble.

The Gudgen, the Loach, and the Bulhead, haunt ever shalloweſt places, and where streames are slow, yet transparent: The barbell, Roch, Dace, & Ruff, haunt the deep shady places of those brooks which are mixt with more sand then gravell, or where the clay is firm and not slimie, and delight ever to lye under the sha-

ſhadows of trees, brambles or other things growing from the bank.

The Luce or Lucerne, which indeed is but the overgrowne Pike, haunteth the broad and large Meares, which are miles in compaſs, being deep and ſtil, and ever lodgeth in the bottome thereof amongſt the roots and tufts of Sedge, and Bulruſhes, being quiet and leaſt troubled. The Humber haunts the clayie Rivers of hye Countries, where the ſoyle is rich and full of Marle, or in Lakes or ponds of the ſame nature. The Shad and Tweat, haunt thoſe waters which are brackiſh, deep, and accuſtomed to ebbe and flow, and where they haunt, there commonly alſo is found both the Mullet and Suant, all which love to lodge cloſe and flat at the bottome of the water, ſo it it be more Ooze then gravell.

Objection. But here now me thinks, I heare the curious reprehend me, ſaying, that if theſe Rules ſhould be infallible, that then no River or Pond could containe above three ſorts of Fiſh onely, when daily Experience ſheweth us, that ſome Rivers have ten, ſome twenty, and ſome thirty: as the Trent for example, whoſe antient name in French is Trianta, in Latine Trigiuta, and in Engliſh Thirty, derived from this ground, becauſe there ſtandeth upon h[illegible] thirty Caſtles, thirty Market Townes, and are in her thirty ſeverall ſorts of fiſhes.

Anſwer. To which I thus anſwer, that foraſmuch as into moſt Rivers falleth many ſeverall waters and many ſoiles, according unto the nature of thoſe Countries through which the Channels runne, that therefore every alteration of ſoile may alter the breed of Fry, and many ſeverall kinds may be in one Streame, ſo that the Angler in the choiſe of his paſtime in ſuch places, muſt either have a perfect knowledge how the ſoiles doe alter (which he may commonly know by the banks,) or elſe rely upon his experience, which will be the beſt Tutor to direct him unto the haunts of ſeverall fiſhes; but for ponds or ſtanding waters which are of one earth, there you ſhall ſurely find them beſt proſper, which are before rehearſed.

CHAP.

CHAP. 13.

Of baites in general, and of every particular kinde: their Seasons, Use and preservations.

SInce I have thus far orderly passed over the outward and instrumental necessaries appertaining to this modest Recreation, shewing the severall tooles and implements which are to be imployed therein, and have also shewed the inward and mental knowledge which should be harboured in his breast that will be an Angler; I will now proceed to speak of the Baites and inticements, which are the Agents and effecters of our desires in this pastime, without which all other implements are vaine and useless: for what doth it avail to have all other things in perfection, when this, which is the strength and life of the rest, is either imperfect or defective?

To speak then generally of baites, they are divided into three kinds, which are, Live baits, dead baits, & baits living but in appearance only. Your live baits are worms of all kinds, especially the Red-worm, the Maggot, the Bobb, the Dor, browne Flyes, Frogs, Grashoppers, Hornets, Wasps, Bees, Snailes, small Roches, Bleaks, Goodgins or Loches. Your dead baites are pasts of all makings, young brood of Wasps dried or undried, the clotted blood of Sheep, Cheese, Bramble-berries, Corne, Seeds, Cherries, and such like. And your baits which seem to live, yet are Dead, are Flies artificially made of all sorts and shapes, made of silke and Feathers about your hookes, which will serve for every severall season through the year, and being by your Line moved upon the water, seeme to be live Flies, which the fish with great greedines will catch up and devour.

Now for the seasons in which these baites are most profitable, you shall understand that the red-worme wil serve for small fish all the year long; the Maggot is good in July, the bob and Dore in May, the brown Flyes in June, Frogs in March, Grashoppers in September, Hornets in July, Waspes and Bees in July, Snailes in August, for the Roch, Bleak or gudgeon, they serve the Pike at any season: all Pasts are good in May, June, and July: dryed Wasps in May: Sheeps-blood and Cheese in Aprill: Seasons.

prill: for Bramble-berries, Corne and seeds, they are good at the fall of the Leafe. Lastly, for your dead flies, which are most proper for the Trout or Graveling, you shall know that the Dun Fly is good in March, being the lesser, but the greater Dun Fly will serve the latter end of February: the Stone-fly is good in Aprill, the Red flye, and Yellow Fly in May; the Black Fly, the dark Yellow Fly, and the Moorish Fly in June; the Tawny Fly part in May, and part of June, the Wasp Fly, and the shell Fly in July, and the clowdy dark Fly in Auguſt.

Of flyes.

The making of flyes.

Now for the making of these Flies, the cloudy dark Fly is made of black wooll clipt from between a sheeps eares, and whipt about with a blak silk, his wings of the under maile of the Mallard, and his head made black and sutable, fixed upon a fine peece of Cork, and folded so cunningly about the hook, that nothing may be perceived but the point and beard only. The Shell-fly is made of fine green Floxe, and the wings of the wings of a Pew-glead: the Wasp-Fly is made of black wooll, lapt about with yellow silk, and the wings of the down of a Buzzard; the Tawny Fly is made of tawny wool, and the wings set one contrary to another, and made of the white downe of a Widgen: the Moorish Fly is made of fine flocks, shorne from a freese-gray russet, and the wings of a Drake: the bright yellow Fly is made of yellow wool, and his wings of a red Cocks yellow maine: the the sad yellow Fly is made of black wooll, with a twisted yellow silk, liks a list, whipt down on either side, and the wings of the wings of a Buzzard, set on with black threed: the black Fly is made of black wooll, and lapt about with the herle of a Peacokes taile, his wings with the brown feathers of the Mallard, and some of his blew feathers on his head: the red Fly is made of red wooll, lapt about with black silk, and the wings of the maile of a Mallard, with some of thred feathers of a Capon: the Stone-Fly is made of black wool made yellow under the wings, and under the tail with silk, and the wings of drakes down: the greater Dun-Fly is made of black wooll, & his wings of the dun feathers of a drakes taile; the lesser Dun-Fly is made of dun wool, and his wings of the maile of a Partridge.

Now for the shapes and proportions of these Flies, it is impossible to describe them without painting, therefore you shall take

of theſe ſeveral Flies alive and laying them before you, try how neer your art can come unto nature by an equall ſhape and mixture of colours; and when you have made them, you may keep them in cloſe boxes uncruſhed, & they wil ſerve you many yeers.

Now for the preſervation and keeping of your quick baits (for longer then they are neat and ſweet they are not good: (you ſhall underſtand, that they muſt not be kept altogether, but every kind ſeveral by it ſelfe, and nouriſhed with ſuch comforts as it delighteth in, when it is at liberty, or with ſuch things as they breed in or upon when they are firſt taken. And firſt for the Red worme: when you take them, you ſhall put them in a bagge of red cloath, and chopping a handfull of Fennel, mixe it with half ſo much freſh mould being black and fertile, and they will both live and ſcowr therein. There be ſome Anglers which put wet Moſs both under and above them: Others there be which put Parſly or ſweet Marjoram unto them, but the former way is the beſt, ſo you obſerve every night to renew their Earth, or once in two dayes to refreſh them with a little new Oxe dung; and thus you may keep them two months without imperfection: For the great white Maggots you ſhall mix with them ſheeps tallow, or little bits of a beaſts Liver; the beſt way to ſcowr them is to put them into a bagge of blanketting, with ſand, and hang them where they may have the ayre of the fire, or other warmth, for the ſpace of an hour or two. For Frogs and Graſhoppers, you ſhall keep them in wet moſs, and long graſs, moiſtned every night with Water; & when you angle with them you ſhall cut off their legges by the knees, and the Graſhoppers wings neer unto the body; for other wormes, as the Bob, Cadis-worme, Canker, and ſuch like, you ſhall keep them with the ſame things you find them upon, and for all live flyes you ſhall uſe them as you take them, onely the Waſpe, the Hornet, and Humble Bee, which is without ſting, you ſhall firſt dry them a little in a warme oven after the bread is drawn, and then dip all their heads into ſheeps blood, and then dry them againe, and ſo keep them in a cloſe box, and they wil continue two or three months in all good perfection. Preſervation of Baits.

Now laſtly, to ſpeak of your made baits, which are Paſte, the moſt of them will laſt the whole year, and as they be di- Of making paſtes.

vers, ſo I wil ſhew you how to compound every one of them in his true and perfect nature. Firſt, to make Paſts that ſhall laſt longeſt; you ſhall take Beane-flower, and thoſe parts of the Conies leg which is called the Almond of the Coney, or if it bee of a fat young Whelp, or a Cat, it is as good: and to theſe put a like quantity of Virgin waxe, and ſheeps ſuet, and then beat them together in a Mortar, untill they be made one body, then with a little clarified Hony temper it before the fire, and ſo make it up in round bals, and it will laſt all the year: and the uſe thereof is when you Angle to bait your hooke therwith, and not any Fiſh which ſwimmeth in freſh waters, but will greedily bite thereat.

There is alſo another Paſt which is of equall quality and uſe with this, and will laſt as long, and that is to take the Kidney-Tallow of a Sheep: and as much young Cheeſe, and beat them in a mortar till they be one body, then add to them as much wheat-flower as wil bring it to an exceeding ſtiffe paſt, then knead it before the fire, and allay the ſtiffeneſſe with life hony, and ſo make it up into bals.

The uſe of this paſt is like the former. Take the blood of a Sheep, and of hony like quantity, and beat them together with a lump of freſh cheeſe, then with the fine grated crummes of white bread, work them into a ſtiffe paſt, and ſo role it up in bals, and when you Angle do not baite your hooke therewith, but now and then caſt little pellets thereof into the water, and it will intiſe the Fiſh to reſort unto you, and to bite with great greedineſs.

There be others which take Bread crummes, and beat them in a Mortar with ripe Cherries (the ſtones being taken out) untill it come to a ſtiffe Paſt, and then knead it up into bals, and uſe it as you do that which was laſt recited: it is moſt approved, and very excellent for all ſorts of Fiſh in freſh waters.

Laſtly if you take the oyle of the Aſpray, and Coculus Indiæ, and Aſſa fætida beaten, and mixt with as much life Honey, and then diſſolve them in the oyle of Polypody, and ſo keep it in a cloſe glaſs; then when you Angle annoint your baite but with this confection, & though the weather be never ſo unſeaſonable, or the fiſh never ſo ill diſpoſed to bite, yet be ſure you ſhall not loſe

loſe your Labour, but take, when all men elſe faile of their purpoſe: for the ſecret hath been rarely approved, and hitherto hath been concealed with great ſecreſie. And thus much for baites and their uſes.

CHAP. 2.

Of Angle for every ſeveral kind of Fiſh: according to their natures.

NOw to ſhew you how you ſhall angle moſt properly for every ſeveral Fiſh, with true art, according to the nature of the fiſh, I think it not amiſs firſt to begin with the Goodgin, Roch, and Dace, which being Fiſhes of eager bit, moſt fooliſh, leaſt affrightfull, and ſooneſt deceived, are the firſt fitteſt preys for young Schollers, and ſuch as are but Learners in the Art of Angling, for the eaſineſs of their gaining wil not only ſettle an unreſolved mind, but give unto ignorance both comfort and incouragement. Of the Goodgin, Roch, and Dace.

If then you wil Angle for any of theſe ſmall Fiſhes in great ſtreames, it ſhall be meet to take a boat, and finding the places of their haunt, which is commonly in ſandy clear waters, and where they run ſwifteſt, there Angle for them with your ſmalleſt hooks, well headed, and ſmalleſt Lines, well corkt. Your hooke would rather dragg than be an inch from the bottome, and your beſt bait is the Red-worme, Cod-worme, Maggot, clotted blood of Sheep cut in little bits, or elſe the white Spawn or brood of Waſpes: and ever as ſoon as you ſee the Cork ſtir, ſuddenly ſtrike, for they will lye nibling at the bait, and finding the hook, forſake it. If you Angle for them in ſmall brooks, you ſhall ſtand under bridges, at the falls of Mils, behind Poplars, or Oziers, or any where, where the ſtreame runneth deep and ſwift; and ever note that when your bit failes, you remove your place, and ſeek out a new ſtanding, and withall forget not ever when you Angle for any of theſe fiſh, to caſt in ſome of your Paſt before your hook, for this will make your ſport much more abundant: and although the Dace out of their own nature, biteth high, and neer the top of the water, yet theſe baites and intiſements will make him ſtoope, and be taken eaſily.

Of the Carpes. If you will Angle for the Carp, you muſt have a ſtrong Rod and a ſtrong Line, of at leaſt ſeven or nine haires, and either mixt with green or watched ſilk: your Cork muſt be large long and ſmooth: your Leads ſmooth and cloſe, and fixt neere the hook, and the hook almoſt of a three penny compaſs. He is very dainty to bite but at ſome ſpecial hours, as very early in the morning, or very late at night, and therefore he muſt be very much entiſed with Paſt: his beſt baits are the Moſs-worme, the red worme, or the Menow, for he ſeldome refuſeth them. The Cadis-worme is good for him in *June*, and the Maggot, Black worme, or Graſhopper, in *July*, *Auguſt* and *September*. If you make him Paſt of ſoure Ale, white of egs, and bread-crums, it wil very much entiſe him: alſo I would ever wiſh you before you fiſh for the Carpe, to caſt in a handfull of white bread chippings into the Pond or River, for they will not only intiſe him to your bait, but alſo give you notice if you be neer his haunt, for you ſhall preſently hear him ſmack above the water, and then if you miſs him, either your fortune or skil is not good.

Of the Chub, Chevin, or Trout. If you wil angle for the Chub, Chevin, or Trout, all your inſtruments muſt be ſtrong and good: your rod dark and diſcoloured, your line ſtrong, but ſmall and ſhort, your hook of a two-penny compaſs, and if you Angle with a Fly, then, nor Lead, nor Corke, nor quil, if otherwiſe, then all of a handſome and ſutable proportion.

The beſt ſtanding to take them is in cloſe and concealed places, as behind Trees, Walls or Arches of Bridges: their haunts are in clear waters which runne upon Sand or Gravel: and they are in beſt ſeaſon from *March* til *Michaelmas*, if you angle for them with dead Flyes, without Lead or Cork, I have ſhewed you in the former Chapter, the ſeveral flyes for each ſeveral month; but if you angle for them with other baits, then you muſt have both Cork and Lead, for he will bite neare the bottome, yet ſometimes you may angle for him with a ſmall Menow hang'd at your hooke by the neather parts, without Corke or Lead, and ſo draw the bait upon the top of the water; and both with it and with every fly, ſtrike rather before than after he biteth. If you angle for him at the ground in *March*, *Aprill*, *May*, and *Sep-*

September, the Menow is a good baite, ſo is the Stone-fly, Cadis-worme, Bobb, red-worme, ditch canker, young froggs, the worme that breedeth on the Ozier-leafe, and the Dock-canker mixt together. In *June* Crickets and Dore-flyes are good: In *July* the Graſhopper is good, ſo is the Humble bee, dryed Waſps or dryed Hornets, or any of their young brood in the Combs. In *Auguſt* flying Piſmires are good, ſo is the Colewort-worme, or the Maggot, and in *September* either Cherries, Mice before they have any haire, or the great Sow-worme.

I now wil Angle for the Eele, the beſt place is at Weares, Mil-ponds, bridges, hollow banks, or any ſwift falling water: your Line ſtrong, and not above two elles in length, and very heavily plumd, a good round hook but no Cork, becauſe you muſt not ſtrike till the Eele pluck: neither muſt you by any meanes pull haſtily, but holding your Line ſtiffe, with Labour and patience tire him, leaſt that tearing his chaps, you loſe him. The beſt baite is the red worme, or little peeces of ſheeps Guts. Of the Eele.

The Flounder and Sewant are greedy biters, yet very crafty: for they will nibble and ſuck at a bait a good while before they ſwallow it, and if they perceive the hooke, they will flye from it. Therefore to make them more haſty of the bait, you muſt ever be moving your Line, and ſeldome let it lye ſtill. They lye moſt commonly in the deepeſt places of the River where the water is ſtilleſt, and runneth with leaſt force: Alſo they lye near unto the bank, and delight moſt in the ſtreame which is brackiſh, and mixt with the ſalt water. Your Line muſt be ſtrong and well plumbd near to the hook; and the beſt bait is the red Worme, and the young brood of Waſps. Of the Flounder and Sewant.

The Barbel or Grailing, which ſome call the Ember, are very ſubtile and crafty fiſhes: Therefore you muſt be very careſull that your baites be ſweet and new, and when you angle for them do in all things as you do for the Trout, for they bite aloft in the Summer, and at the bottome in the Winter. Your Lines muſt be exrraordinary ſtrong, and your hooks of a threpenny Compaſs, for they are fiſhes of weighty bodies, and when they are ſtrucke, muſt have liberty to play and tire themſelves, or elſe they will indanger the breaking of your Rod, and therefore Of the Greyling or Barbel.

your Line muſt be of the longeſt ſize.

The beſt Seaſon to angle for the Breame, is from the latter end of *February* till *September*: he is a very luſty ſtrong fiſh, and therefore your tooles muſt be good, the baits in which he moſt delighteth, is in wormes of all ſorts, Buttter-flyes, green flyes, paſt of bread crummes, or the brood of Waſps.

Of the Tench. The tench is a fiſh that ever loveth the bottome of Rivers, where the Ooze or mud is thickeſt, and is moſt fit to be angled for in the height of Summer, for at other Seaſons he is not apt to bite, and all times he is very dainty.

The baites in which he delighteth moſt, is paſts that are very ſweet and the browner the better, eſpecially if it be made with the blood of a ſheep. At the great red worme alſo he will bite, and ſo much the ſooner if you mixe them with this paſt: the Maggot and dryed Waſp, he wil ſeldome refuſe, chiefly being dipt in honey.

Of the Blake, Ruffe and Perch. The Bleak, Ruffe, and Perch are fiſhes which bite neither high nor low, but for the moſt part in the midſt of the water, therefore your Line muſt be very lightly plumbd, and farre from the hook. The baites which moſt intice them, beſides the red-worme, is the houſe-fly in the Summer, and fat of Bacon in the winter: in April they will bite well at the Bob-worm or Maggot, and in all other ſeaſons they ſeldome refuſe any worme or canker. Your line would be ſmall: and well armed from the hook a handfull with ſmall wyer, for the teeth of the Perch will elſe gnaw it aſunder.

Of the Pike. The Pike is a fiſh of great ſtrength and weight, in ſo much that you can hardly have a Line of haire to hold him; therefore your beſt Anglers uſe moſt commonly a Chaulk line: your Angle-rod alſo muſt have no ſmall top, but be all of one piece and bigneſs, and the Line made exceeding faſt from ſlipping; Your hook would be of the ſtrongeſt wyer, white or yellow, and made double, the points turning two contrary wayes, and then armed with ſtrong wyer a foot at leaſt: his beſt bait is a little ſmall Roch, Dace, or Menow, the hook being put in at the tail, and comming forth under the gils, and you muſt ſeldome or never let your bait lye ſtill in the water, but draw it up and down, as though the fiſh did move in the water, and fled from the Pike, for

for this wil make him more eager and hafty to bite: and having bit, you muſt be ſure to tire him well before you take him up.

The yellow live Frog is alſo an excellent bait for the Pike, for you muſt underſtaud, that they naturally delight not in any dead or unmooving food.

There bee ſome which take a great deal of delight and pleaſure to Snickle or halter the Pike, which is good when Pikes are broke out of Ponds or Rivers, and come into ſmall Ditches or Rundles, as is oft to be ſeen in low-Countries. The way then to halter them is firſt to find the Pike where he lyeth (which in the heat of the day, you may eaſily doe) then take your Chaulk-line, and making a large running nooze thereof, put it gently into the water, about two feet before the noſe of the Pike, then when you feele it touch the ground, cauſe one to goe behind the Pike, and with a poal to ſtirr him, then as he ſhooteth, meet him with your nooze, and ſo with a ſudden and quick jerk throw him upon the Land. In this ſport you muſt be very ready, nimble, and quick ſighted, for if you give him the leaſt time, he will eſcape you. Of Snickling the Pike.

Now laſtly, touching the angling for the Salmon, albe he is a fiſh which in truth is unfit for your Travaile, both becauſe hee is too huge and cumberſome, as alſo in that he naturally delighteth to lye in the bottomes of great deep Rivers, and as near as may bee in the midſt of the Channell, yet for as much as many men eſteem that beſt which is got with moſt difficulty, you ſhall underſtand that the baite in which he moſt delighteth are thoſe which ſerve for the Trout, as paſt or flyes in the Summer, and Red-wormes, Bob-wormes, or Cankers on the water-docks after *Michaelmas*. And thus much for the Art of Angling, and taking of each ſeveral ſort of fiſh which live in the freſh or brackiſh waters. Of the Salmon.

CHAP.

CHAP. 15.

Of taking Fish without Angles, and first of laying Hooks.

THe laying of Hooks to take fish in the night, is most commonly used for the Pike, in great broad Water or Meeres, full of Sedge, Bulrushes, and other weeds, being very deep and muddy: Some doe use to lay them for the Eele also, but you shall understand, that if you lay for the Pike, you must by no means let your hook go to the bottome, but with a float keepe it half a foot from the ground, but if you lay for Eeles, then let your hooks be smaller, and sink as low as they will.

Now for the manner of laying them you shall baite the hooks as you did when you Angled, with Menow, Roch, Dace, Goodgen, or Millers-thumbe: and being made fast to strong packthread, fasten also that pack-thread to a strong cord, which cord if it be three fadome in length may hold sixteen or twenty hooks. Then fixing two strong stakes into the Earth, fasten the two ends of the big cord to the two stakes, and so let it lye from Sun set untill Sun rise, and you shall never faile, but some of your hookes will have taken. Onely observe if you lay for Pikes, to lay in the midst of the water, neer unto the Sedge and Weeds: but if you lay for Eeles, lay very neer the Banks, so there be no hollow or rotten trees growing thereon.

Now if you would with these laid hooks take any other sort of Fish, you shall lay such hooks as are fit for them: and before you depart away, cast into the water good store of pellets of those pasts which are proper for the fishes you would take: as the past which is made of Branne, Sheeps bloud, Garlick, and Lees of Wine, will take all sorts of small fish: that past which is made of sheeps Liver, Guts, Hogges bloud, Bread crummes, and Opoponaxe, will bring Perch, Tench, Carpe, or Breame unto your hooks, and that past which is only made of Rue, Pine-apple kernels, Beane-meal and Hony, will bring the Salmon, the Trout, Chevin, or Barbels unto your hookes at all times of the year.

Chap.

CHAP. 16.

Of preſerving Fiſh from all ſorts of devourers.

AMongſt all the ravenous Creatures which deſtroy Fiſh, there is none more greedy than the Otter, whoſe onely food being thereon, hourly lyeth in waite to conſume them: Therefore though ſome Fiſher-men uſe to take them with a Wheele made with a double tunnel, and called by the name of the Otter-wheele, whoſe practiſe is ſo ordinary, that every Fiſher-man knowes the uſe of the ſame; Yet for a more eaſie and ready way to deſtroy him, you ſhal as near as you can find out his haunt, and the holes that are in the bank, and under the Roots of Trees where he lodgeth, and then take a great Eele, and ſlitting her back above her navel, put in three or four lumps of *Arſnick*, and then ſtitch up the skin again, and ſo lay the Eele from the navel downward in the water, and from the navel upward out of the water: which when the Otter finds, it is his property to eat unto the navel and no further, which if he do, it is certaine that it is the laſt he will eat.

Next to the Otter, the Herne is a great devourer of Fiſh, eſpecially the ſmall frye, or that which lives in ſhallow places; therefore to deſtroy the Herne, you ſhal take a ſtrong Barbel hook, and baite it, either with a Menow, or a peece of Doggs fleſh: colour your line green, and lay it in a ſhallow place made faſt to ſome ſtake, where the Herne may wade to the knee to take it, and as ſoon as he hath ſwallowed it, he ſhal no more go from the place.

Now, for as much as the Fowl is a great deſtruction unto the young Spawn or Fry of Fiſh, it ſhall be good for the preſervation thereof, to ſtake down into the bottome of you Ponds good long Kids or Faggots of bruſh-wood, mixt with the boughes of green Willowes, or Oziers, in which the Fiſh caſting their Spawn, it will be a defence for them, till they be able to flye into better ſafety.

Next to the Hern the water-rat is a great deſtroyer of young

fiſh, eſpecially Trouts, Creviſſes, or any that lye in holes in the banks: the beſt way to deſtroy them is by hunting them with water-Doggs which is a very good ſport, and I have ſeen twenty kild in an afternoon: but ſome do uſe to take them with hutches, or dead-fals, ſet in their haunts, but the former way is the better.

Next them the Sea-pye, and Sea-mew, is a great Devourer or conſumer of Fiſh, and there is no better way to take him than by ſetting Rods dreſt with water Lime, and ſet ſhoring on the edge of the water, one geſſe or row over another, in ſuch places as the Water is moſt ſhalloweſt, and upon ſome tufts of green Weeds lay a fiſh for a baite under the rods, at which he can no ſooner ſtrike but he is preſently taken.

Next theſe the Kings Fiſher (which is a ſmall greene bird) is a great deſtroyer of Fiſh, and the way to take him is to marke his haunt where he commonly ſitteth, which is ever in ſome buſh next the River: then ſet a little Cradle of limed ſtrawes about his ſeat, and they will quickly take him, for he ſeldome changeth, but ever ſitteth upon one bough.

Now to conclude, for the Cormorant, the Morehen, the bald coot, or the Oſpray, which deſtroy all kind of fiſh whatſoever, there is no way better to kill them then by watching their haunts, to ſhoot at them with a Fowling peece, and in the breeding time of the year to deſtroy their neſts.

CHAP. 17.

Of the Ordering of Ponds, for the nouriſhment of Fiſh.

THere is nothing that killeth Fiſh, or maketh them to proſper worſe, than putrified and ſtinking water: neither is there any thing which corrupteth water ſooner than Weeds, Sedge, and ſuch filthineſs being ſuffered to grow therein; Therefore it ſhall be good once in three years for to cleanſe your Ponds of all manner of Weeds and filth, which with a ſmall Boat and a ſharp hook you may eaſily do at the fall of the leafe, for to cut them in the Spring doth increaſe them. Now if your Ponds be much ſubject to mud, as for the moſt part thoſe in clay Coun-

tries are, then it ſhall be good once in ſeven years to drain them, and lade them, and this would be done at the beginning of the Spring; and ſuch fiſh as you are willing and meane to preſerve, you ſhall put into ſmaller pits or ſtewes, and the other diſpoſe at your pleaſure: then cauſing the mud to be troden with mens feet as you tread Mortar, you ſhall ſee all the Eeles riſe aloft, which when you have taken alſo, then with ſhovels and trough Spades caſt out all the mud and filth (which is a ſingular compoſt for Land) upon the Bank: then fodde the bottome of the Pond, and the ſides with green foddes, and fix them hard into the Earth with ſmall ſtakes of Sallow, and theſe ſides wil nouriſh the Fiſh excedingly.

This done, if your Pond have not any freſh Spring in it, then you ſhall lade the water back againe into it, and then draining your ſtewes, take out your ſtore of Fiſh, and put them againe into your Pond, obſerving ever that there be two parts ſpawners and but a third melters.

Theſe pits and ſmall ſtewes, how ſo ever others write to the contrary, are better for feeding of fiſh, then breeding: therefore you ſhall ever keep them with freſh water, and placing ſo one by another, that you may empty them at pleaſure, once in three months renew their banks and bottomes with freſh fods of the fruitfulleſt graſs: alſo, you ſhall put into them good ſtore of ſmall Fry of Roch, Dace, Menow, Loch, and Miller-thumbes, for the bigger Fiſh will feed thereon: alſo the inward Garbage and bloud of Sheep, Calves, Hogges, and ſuch like, which will fat fiſh ſuddainly, for you muſt know that as the Fiſh in Rivers have, by vertue of the current, ever ſomething brought to them to feed on, ſo the Fiſh which is impriſoned in ponds and wants that help, muſt either be relieved, or elſe periſh, and there is nothing better to feed them with, then that before ſpoken of, or elſe Brewers graines, chippings, curds, and any Corne whatſoever, throwne into the Ponds Morning and Evening.

CHAP. 18.

Of the beſt Water-Lime.

THe beſt water-Lime that can be made, and which will moſt ſurely hold within the water, is to take a pound of the ſtrongeſt Bird-lime, and waſh it in nine running waters, untill there be no hardneſs in it, and then beat out the water cleane, and dry it. Which done, put it into an earthen pot, and adde thereto as much Capons greaſe as will make it runne, two ſpooneſulls of ſtrong vinegar, a very little Lamp Oyle, and Venice Turpentine, and boil them all gently together upon a ſoft fire, ſtirring it continually. Then take it from the fire, and let it cool, then at any time when you meane to uſe it, warme it, and then annoint either your Rods, Buſhes, Strawes, or Lines, and no water will take away the ſtrength.

Of

Of the fighting Cock.

CHAP. 19.

Of the Choyce, Ordering, Breeding, and Dyeting of the fighting-Cock for Battell.

Since there is no pleasure more Noble, Delightsome, or void of couzenage and deceit then this pleasure of Cocking is; and since many of the best wisdomes of our Nation have been pleased to participate with the delights therein, I think it not amiss, as well for the instruction of those which are unexperienced, as fortifying of them which have some knowledge therein, to declare in a few Lines the Election, Breeding, and Secrets of dyeting the fighting Cock, which having been hitherto concealed and unwritten of, is (for our pleasure sake) as worthy a general knowledge as any delight whatsoever.

The choyce of the Cock for battel.

To speak then first of the choise of the fighting Cock, you shall understand that the best Characters you can observe in him, is the Shape, Colour, Courage, and sharp heele: for his shape, the middle and different size is, ever accounted best, because they be ever most matchable, strong nimble, and ready for your pleasure

ſure in his battle: and ſo the exceeding little Cock is as hard to match, and is commonly weak and tedious in his manner of fighting. Hee would be of a proud and upright ſhape, with a ſmall head, like unto a Spar-hawke, a quick large eye, and a ſtrong back, crookt and bigge at the ſetting on, and in colour ſutable to the plume of his Feathers, as black, yellow, or reddiſh. The beame of his legge would be very ſtrong, and according to his Plume, blew, gray or yellow: his ſpurres long, rough, and ſharpe, a little bending and looking inward.

For his colour, the gray pyle, the yellow pyle, or the red with the black breſt, is eſteemed the beſt: the pide is not ſo good, and the white and dun are the worſt. If he be red about the head, like skarlet, it is a ſigne of luſt, ſtrength and courage, but if he be pale it is a ſigne of ſickneſs and faintneſs.

For his courage, you ſhall obſerve it in his walk, by his treading, and the pride of his going, and in his pen, by his oft crowing. For the ſharpneſs of his heele, or as Cockmaſters call it, the narrow heele, it is only ſeen in his fighting, for that Cock is ſayd to be ſharp heeld or narrow heeld, which every time he riſeth hitteth, and draweth bloud of his adverſary, gilding (as they tearme it) his ſpurs in bloud, and threatning at every blow an end of that battel.

And theſe Cocks are ſurely of great eſtimation, for the beſt Cock-maſters are of opinion, that a ſharp heeld Cock, though he be a little falſe, is much better then the trueſt Cock which hath a dull heele, and hitteth ſeldome, for though the one fights long yet he ſeldome wounds, and the other though he wil not indure the uttermoſt hewing, yet he makes a very ſuddaine and quick diſpatch of his buſineſs, for every blow puts his adverſary in danger.

But that Cock which is both aſſuredly hard, and alſo very ſharp heeld, he is to be eſteemed, and is of the moſt account above all other, and therefore in your general Election chuſe him which is of a ſtrong ſhape, good colour, true valour, and of a moſt ſharp and ready heel.

Now for the breeding of theſe Cocks for the battel, it is much diffe-

different from those of the dunghill, for they are like Birds of prey, in which the female is ever to be preferred and esteemed before the Male, and so in the breed of these Birds, you must be sure that your Hen be right, that is to say, she must be of a right plume, as grey, grissell, speckt or yellowish, black or brown is not amiss: she must be kindly unto her young, of large body, well poaked behind for large Egge, and well tufted on the crown, which shewes courage: if she have weapons she is better, but for her valour it must be excellent, for if there be any sort of cowardise in her, the chickens cannot be true. The breeding of the battle Cock.

And it is a note amongst the best breeders, that the perfect Henne from a Dunghill-cock, wil bring a good chicken, but the best Cock from a Dunghill hen can never get a good bird: and I have knowne in mine own Experience, that the two famousest Cocks that ever fought in these dayes, the one called Noble, the other Grissell, begot on many ill hennes very bad Cocks; but the most famous henne Iinks never brought forth ill Bird how bad soever her Cock were.

Having then unto perfect Cocks got perfect hennes, (for that is the best breeding) you shall know that the best season of the year to breed in, is from the increase of the Moon in *February*, to the increase of the Moon in *March*, for one *March* Bird is ever better worth then three at any other season. You shall place her pen in which she sitteth, to stand warm, and to make her bed of soft and sweet straw, for they be much tenderer then the Dunghils are, neither shall you suffer any other Fowl to come in her view where she sits, for it will move her to displeasure, and make her to indanger her Eggs.

You shall also observe in her sitting, whether she be busie to turne her Egges (which is a good signe in a hen) and if she be slack, you shall help her at at such times as she riseth from her nest, and ever be sure that when she commeth from her nest, to have meat and water ready for her, lest being forced to seek her food, she suffer her Eggs to cool too much: also, you shall have Sand, Gravell, and fine sifted ashes in the roome where she sitteth, in which she may bath and trim her selfe, at her pleasure.

After one and twenty dayes is the time of their hatching, and

and if when theyare new hatched, ſhe doe neglect to cover and keep the firſt warm til the reſt be diſcloſed,you ſhal obſerve her, and take thoſe that are firſt opened, and lapping them in warm Wool,lay them within the ayr of the fire til the reſt be hatcht,& then put them all under her,& keeping both the hen & them exceeding warm,for they be ſoe tender that the leaſt cold will kill them,and ſuffer neither them nor the hen to go abroad into the ayre till they be a month old:and let them have ſtore of food, as Oat-meale, Cheeſe parings, Chilter-wheate, and ſuch like, and a large room to walk in, the floor being board; for the earth floore is too moyſt, and the plaſter-floore too cold.

After they are a month old,you ſhall let them walke in ſome graſs court or green place,where they may have ſtore of Worms, but by all means be ſure there be no ſtinking puddles of water in it, no ſinks, nor filthy Channels, for it is the greateſt poyſon that can be to Birds of this nature, and breedeth thoſe Diſeaſes which are moſt mortall:if every morning before they goe forth, you perfume them and their roome with Roſemary, or Peny-royall burnt, it is a great preſervation againſt all thoſe infirmities;or to chop Leek blades amongſt their Meat is very good alſo.

In this ſort you ſhall nouriſh them till you may diſtinguiſh the Cock-Chicken from the hen, and then ſeeing their Combs or Watt[e]s but appear, you ſhall cut them away, and ſo anoint the ſore with ſweet Butter till it be whole. This will make them have fine ſmall,ſlender,and ſmooth heads, whereas to ſuffer the Combe to grow to his bigneſs, and then cut it away, it will make him have a gouty thick head,with great lumps: neither is the Flux of blood wholeſome,for the leaſt loſſe of bloud in a feathered foule, is exceeding mortall, and very dangerous.

You ſhall ſuffer your Cock Chickens to go together with their hens till they beginne to fight, and peck one at another, but then you ſhall ſeparate them, and diſperſe them into ſeveral walkes;and that walke is the beſt for a fighting Cock which is fartheſt from reſort,as at Windmills or Water-mills,Grange-houſes, and ſuch like, where hee may live with his hennes without

out the offence or company of other cocks. Lodges in Parks are alſo good, and ſo are Conie-warrens, only they are a little too much haunted with vermine, and that is dangerous: let the feeding place for your cockes be upon ſoft dry ground, or upon boardes: for to feed upon paved Earth, or on Plaſter floores will make their beaks weak, blunt, and not apt to hold faſt. Any white corn is good food for a cocke in his walke, and ſo are toſts or crufts of bread ſteeped in drink, or mans Urine, for it will both ſcowr and coole them inwardly.

If your chickens begin to crow (not being ſix moneths old) clear and lowd, ot at unſeaſonable times, doe not eſteeme them, for it is an apparent ſigne of cowardiſe and falſhood: for the true cock is very long before he get his voyce, and when he hath it, he obſerves his hours with the beſt judgement. Unto your fighting cock three hennes are ſufficient, five are with the moſt, for they are ſo hot of nature, and will tread ſo much, that they ſoone conſume their naturall ſtrength.

A cock would not be put to the battel before he be two yeers old, at which time he is perfect and compleat in every member, for to ſuffer him to fight when his ſpurres are but warts, you may well know his courage, but never his goodneſs.

You muſt alſo have an eſpeciall care to the Perch whereon your cock ſitteth when he rouſteth, for if it be too ſmall in the grype, or crooked, or ſo ill placed that he cannot ſit, but he muſt ſtraddle with his legges, any of theſe faults will make him uneven heeld, and whatſoever he was naturally, yet by this accident he wil never be good ſtriker, for the making of the Perch either maketh or marreth the cock. Therfore to prevent this fault, the beſt way is to have in your Rouſt a row of little Perches, not above ſeven or eight inches in length, and not a foot from the ground, ſo that your cock may with eaſe go up to them, and being ſet, muſt of force have his leggs ſtand neer together. It is a rule, that he which is a cloſe ſitter is ever a narrow ſtriker.

Let the footſtool of the Perch be round & ſmooth, & about the bigneſs of a mans arme. Yet for your better knowledge becauſe words cannot ſo well expreſs theſe quantities, it ſhall not be a-

miſs for you to go to ſome famous Cockmaſters houſe and view the Perches which are within his feeding Pennes, and according to thoſe proportions frame your owne, for the Perch is the making and ſpoiling of any Cock whatſoever.

Againe, you muſt be carefull, that when your Cock doth leap from his Perch, that the ground be ſoft whereon he lighteth, for if it be hard or rough, it will make your Cock grow gowty, and put forth knots upon his feet.

The dyeting of cocks for the battel.

Now laſtly, for the dyeting and ordering of a Cock for a battel, which is a ſecret yet never divulged, but kept cloſe in the breſts of ſome few, and for as much as in it only conſiſteth all the ground and ſubſtance of the pleaſure, the beſt Cock undyeted, not being able to encounter with the worſt Cock that is dyeted, you ſhall underſtand, that the time to take up your Cocks is at the latter endof *Auguſt* (for from that time til the latter end of *May* Cocking is in requeſt) and having viewed them well, and ſee that they are ſound, hard feathered, and full ſummed, you ſhall put them into ſeverall Pennes, the models whereof you may behold in every Cock-maſters or Innekeepers houſe, having a moving Perch in it, to ſet at which corner of the Pen you pleaſe.

Of taking up Cocks.

Of the Cock Pen.

This Pen ſhould be made of very cloſe boards, well joyned together all but the fore-front, which would be made open like a Grate, one Barre two inches diſtant from another, and before the Grate two large Troughes of ſoft wood, one for his meat, the other for his water. The dore of the Grate ſhould be made to lift up and down, of ſuch largeneſs that you may with eaſe put your cock in and out, and dayly clenſe the pen to keep it ſweet and wholeſome.

This Pen would be at leaſt three foot in height, and two foot in ſquare every way, and many of them may be joyned in one front, according to the bigneſs of the roome, in which they are built: and alſo one above another, only with over-ſhadowling boards, ſo that one cock may not ſee another.

Of his dyet.

When your Cock, as aforeſaid, is put up into his Pen, you ſhall for three or four daies feed him only with old Manchet, the cruſt pared away, and cut into litle ſquare bits, and you ſhall

ſhall give him to the quantity of a good handfull at a time, and you ſhall feed him three times in a day, that is to ſay, at Sun riſe, at high noone, and at Sun ſet. You ſhall ever let him have before him the fineſt, coldeſt, and ſweeteſt Spring-water that you can get.

After he hath been thus fed four dayes, and his Corn, Worms, Gravell, and other courſe feeding gone from him, in the Morning take him out of the Pen, and another Cock alſo, and putting a paire of Hots upon each of their heeles, which Hots are ſoft bumbaſted roules of Leather, covering their Spurres, ſo that they cannot hurt or bruiſe one another, and ſo ſetting them down on the green graſſe, let them fight and buffet one another a good ſpace, as long as in their teaching they doe not wound or draw blood one upon another; and this is called the ſparring of Cocks: it heateth and chafeth their bodies, and it breaketh the fat and glut, which is within them, and maketh it apt to cleanſe and come away. Of Sparring of Cocks.

After your Cocks have ſparred ſufficiently, and that you ſee them pant and grow weary, you ſhall take them up, and taking off their Hots, you muſt have deep ſtraw baskets made for the purpoſe, with ſweet ſoft ſtraw to the middle, and then put in your Cock, cover him with ſweet ſtraw up to the top, and then lay on the lid cloſe, and there let your Cock ſtove and ſweat till the Evening.

But yet before you put him into the ſtove, you ſhall take Butter and Roſemary finely chopt, and white Sugar candy, all mixt together, and give him a lump thereof, as much as your thumbe, and then let him ſweat, for the nature of this ſcowring is to bring away his greaſe, and to bread breath and ſtrength. You may in time of neceſſity, for want of theſe ſtraw baskets ſtow your Cock in a Cock-bagge, by laying ſtraw both under and above him, but it is not ſo good, becauſe the Ayre hath more power to paſſe thorow it.

After four of the clock in the Evening, you may take your Cock out of the ſtove, and licking his head and eyes all over with your tongue, put him into his Penne, and then taking a good handful of bread, ſmall cut, put it into his trough, and then piſſing into the trough, alſo give it him to eat, ſo as he may

take his bread out of the warme urine, for this will make his ſcouring worke, and cleanſe both his head and body wonderfully.

Now you ſhall underſtand, that the bread which you ſhall give him at this time, and at all other times during his dyeting, ſhall not be Manchet, but a ſpecial bread made for the purpoſe, in this manner: you ſhall take of wheat-meal half a Peck, and of fine oate-meal-flower as much, and mixing them together, knead them into a ſtiffe paſt, with Ale, thee white of a dozen Eggs, and half a pound of Butter, and having wrought the dowe exceeding well, make it into broad thinne cakes, and being three or four daies old, and the bliſterings of the outſide cut away, cut into little ſquare bits, and give it the Cock.

There be ſome others that in this bread will mixe Lycoras, Annis-ſeeds, and other hot Spices, and will alſo in the Cock water ſteep ſlices of Lycoras, but it is not commendable, for it is both unnatural and unwholſome, and maketh a Cock ſo hot at the heart, that when he comes to the latter end of a battle, he is ſuffocated and overcome with his own heat: therefore I adviſe men of judgement, to take that for the beſt dyet which is moſt natural, and leaſt contrary unto the Fowles ordinary feeding.

But to returne to my former Diſcourſe, after you have fed your Cock thus for all night, you ſhall the next day let him reſt, and onely give him his ordinary feedings of Bread and Water, then the next day (which is the ſecond day after his ſparring) you ſhall take him into a fayre even green Cloſe, and there ſetting him down, having ſome Dunghil-Cock in your armes, you ſhall ſhew it him and ſo run from him, and entice him to follow you, and ſo chaſe up and down halfe an hour at leaſt, ſuffering him now and then to have a ſtroke at the Dunghill-Cock. And when you ſee that he is well heated and panteth, you ſhall take him up and bear him into your Cock-houſe, and there firſt give him this ſcouring: Take of Butter, which hath no ſalt, halfe a pound, and beat it in a Mortar with the leaves of Herb of Grace, Iſop, and Roſemary, till the Herbes cannot be perceived, and that the Butter is brought to a greene

Salve

Salve, and of this give the Cock a roule or two, as big as your thumbe, and then ſtove him in the basket, as is before ſaid, till Evening, and then feed as was formerly declared.

The next day you ſhall let him reſt and feed, and the next day after, you ſhall ſparre him again, and thus every other day for the firſt fortnight, you ſhall either ſparre or chaſe your Cock, which are the moſt naturalleſt and kindlieſt heates that you can give him, and after every heat, you ſhall give him a ſcouring: for this will break and cleanſe from him all greaſe, glut, and filthynеſſe, which lying in his body, makes him purſie, faint, and not able to ſtand out the latter end of a battel.

Having fedde your Cocke thus the firſt fortnight, the ſecond fortnight you ſhall alſo feed him in the ſame manner, and with the ſame food, but you ſhall not ſparre him, or give him heats above twice in a week at the moſt, in ſo much that thrice or four times in the fortnight will be ſufficient, and each time you ſhall ſtove and ſcoure him, according to the nature of his heats, that is to ſay, if you heat him much, you ſhall ſtove him long, and give him of your ſcouring the greater quantity: if you finde that he is in good breath, and needeth but ſlight heats, then you ſhall ſtove him the leſſe while, and give him the leſſe of the ſcowring.

Now to the third fortnight, which maketh up the ſix weeks compleat (being a time ſufficient to prepare a Cock for his battel) you ſhall feed him as aforeſaid, but you ſhall not ſparre him at all, for fear of making his head tender or ſore, neither give him any violent exerciſe, but onely twice or thrice in the fortnight, moderately, let him run and chaſe up and down, to maintain his wind, and now and then cuffe a Cock, which you ſhall hold to him in your hands, which done, you ſhall give him his ſcouring well round in the pouder of Sugar-candy, white or brown, but brown is the better, for the Cock then being come to perfect breath, and having no filth in his body for the ſcouring to work on, it will work and cauſe operation upon the vitall parts, and make the Cock ſick, which the Sugar-candy will prevent, and ſtrengthen nature againſt the medicine.

After the end of six weekes feeding, finding your cock in lust and breath, you may fight him at your pleasure, observing that he have at least three daies rest before he fight, and well emptied of his meat before you bring him into the Pit.

The matching of Cocks.

Now when you bring him into the Pit to fight, you must have an especiall care to the matching of him, for in that art consisteth the greateſt glory of the Cock-master, for what availeth it to feed never so well, if in the matching you give that advantage which overthroweth your former labour? Therefore in your matching there are two things to be considered: that is, the length of cocks, and the strength of cocks: for if your adversary-cock be too long, yours shall hardly catch his head, and then he can never indanger eye or life: and if he be the stronger, he will overbear your cock, and not suffer him to rise, and strike with any advantage: therefore for the knowledge of these two rules, though experience be the best Tutor, yet the first, which is length, you shall judge by your eye, when you gripe the cock about the waſt, and make him shut out his legs, in which posture you shall see the utmost of his hight, and so compare them in your judgement. Nor for his strength, which is known by the thickneſſe of his body, for that cock is ever held the strongest which is the largest in the garth, you shall know it by the measure of your hands, gryping the cock about from the points of your great fingers, to the joynts of your thumbes, and either of these advantages by no meanes give to your adversary, but if you doubt losse in the one, yet be sure to gain in the other: for the weak long cock will rise at more ease, and the short strong cock will give the surer blow, so that because all cocks are not cast into a mould, there may be a reconciliation of the advantages, yet by all means give a little as you can.

Of preparing cocks to the fight.

When your cock is equally matcht, you shall thus prepare him to the fight, first with a pair of fine cock shears you shall cut all his Maine off, close unto his neck, even from his head unto the setting on of his shoulders, then you shall clip off all the Feathers from his taile close unto his Rumpe, where the more skarlet that you see in his Rumpe, in the better estate of body the cock is. Then you shall take his wings, and spreading them forth by the length of the first feather of his

rising

wing, clip the reſt ſlope wiſe with ſharpe points, that in his riſing he may therewith indanger the eyes of his adverſary: then with a ſharpe Knife you ſhall ſcrape ſmooth, and ſharpen his his ſpurs.

The ordering of cocks after battel, and the curing them.

Laſtly, you ſhall ſee that there be no feathers about the crown of his Head for his Foe to take hold on, and then with your ſpittle, moiſtning his head all over, turne him into the Pit to move his fortune. When the battle is ended, the firſt thing yon do, you ſhall ſearch wounds, and as many as you can find you ſhall with your mouth ſuck the blood out of them, then waſh them very well with warm Urine, to keep them from Ranckling, and then preſently give him a roul or two of your beſt ſcowring, and ſo ſtove him up as hot as you can, both with ſweet ſtraw and blanketting in a cloſe basket for all that night; then in the morning take him forth, and if his head be much ſweld, yon ſhall ſuck his Wounds againe, and bath them with warwe Urine, then having in a fine bag the powder of the Herb Robert, well dryed, and finely ſeirſt, pounce all the ſore places therewith, and then give the cock a good handful of Bread to eat out of warme Vrine, and ſo put him into the ſtove againe, in the ſame manner as before mentioned, and by no meanes let him feele the ayre untill all the ſwelling be gone, but twice a day ſuck his wounds, dreſſe him, and feed him, as is aforeſaid.

But if he have received any hurt, or blemiſh in his Eye, then you ſhall take a leaf or two of right ground Ivy, not that which runneth along the ground, and is of the ignorant ſo called, but that which growes in little tufts in the bottome of hedges, and is a little rough leafe, and having chewd it very well in your mouth, and ſuckt out the juyce, ſpit it into the eye of the cock, and it will not only cure it of any wound, or any blow in the Eye, where the ſight is not pierced, but alſo defend it from the breeding of filmes, Hawes, Warts, or any ſuch other infirmities which quite deſtroy the ſight: Obſerving that you doe not ceaſe to dreſs the Eye therewith ſo long as you ſhall perceive any blemiſh therein.

Now if your cock have in his fight veyned himſelfe either by narrow ſtriking, or other croſs blow, you ſhall find out the wound

wound, and presently bind thereunto the fine soft down of a hare, and it will both staunch it and cure it.

For any other casual infirmity or sickness which shall happen unto cocks, look in the former book called *Cheap and Good*, & you shall find them set down at large, onely I will give you this one small remembrance, that after you have put forth your wounded cocks to their walkes, and come to visit them a month or two after, if you find about their heads any swollen bunches, hard, and blackish at one end, you shall know that in such bunches are unsound chores: Therefore presently with your Knife you shall open the same and crush out the chores with your thumbs, then with your mouth suck out all the corruption, and then fill the holes full of fresh Butter, and it will cure them. And thus much for the nature of the Cock, and how to keep him for his best use.

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